Iron Age Remains on Land South of Tamage Road, Acton, Suffolk

Archaeological Evaluation and Excavation Report

March 2021

Client: RPS Consulting Ltd

Issue No: 2
OA Report No: 2442
Event No: ACT 045
NGR: TL 89168 44599

oxfordarchaeology

Client Name:	RPS Consulting Ltd
Document Title:	Iron Age Remains on Land South of Tamage Road, Acton, Suffolk
Document Type:	Archaeological Evaluation and Excavation Report
Report No.:	2442
Grid Reference:	TL 89168 44599
Planning Reference:	DC/19/03126
Site Code:	ACT 045
HER number	ESF27361
Invoice Code:	XSFTRA20
Receiving Body:	Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service
Accession No.:	ACT 045
Oasis No.:	oxfordar3-384018
OA Document File Location:	Y:\Suffolk\XSFTRA20\Project Reports
OA Graphics File Location:	Y:\Suffolk\XSFTRA20\Project Data\Graphics
Issue No:	2
Date:	March 2021
Prepared by:	Graeme Clarke (Post-Excavation Project Officer)
Checked by:	Pat Moan (Senior Project Manager)
Edited by:	Lawrence Billington (Post-Excavation Project Officer)
Approved for Issue by:	Elizabeth Popescu (Head of Post-Excavation & Publications)
Signature:	

.....

OA South
Janus House
Osney Mead
Oxford
OX2 0ES

t. +44 (0)1865 263 800

OA East
15 Trafalgar Way
Bar Hill
Cambridge
CB23 8SQ

t. +44 (0)1223 850 500

OA North
Mill 3
Moor Lane Mills
Moor Lane
Lancaster
LA1 1QD
t. +44 (0)1524 880 250

e. info@oxfordarch.co.uk
w. oxfordarchaeology.com
Oxford Archaeology is a registered Charity: No. 285627

Iron Age Remains on Land South of Tamage Road, Acton, Suffolk

Archaeological Evaluation and Excavation Report

Written by Graeme Clarke BSc PCIfA

With contributions from Zoë Uí Choileáin MA MSc BABAO, Martha Craven BA PCIfA, Anthony Haskins BSC MSc ACIfA, Carlotta Marchetto MA PCIfA, Denis Sami PhD, Simon Timberlake MSc PhD and illustrations by Sara Alberigi BA and Dave W. Brown BA

Contents

List of Figures

Appendix B.2 Figure

Appendix B.3 Figure

Appendix B.5 Figure

List of Plates

List of Tables

Summary

Between the 8th June and 16th July 2020 Oxford Archaeology East (OA East) carried out evaluation and subsequent excavation work at Land South of Tamage Road, Acton, Suffolk. Located within a single field, the 3.5ha development area was investigated by a total of 25 evaluation trenches with a single 0.35ha area of excavation on the north-eastern edge of the site, adjacent to Tamage Road.

The locations of the evaluation trenches were based on the results of a geophysical survey conducted across the development area in 2018. The evaluation uncovered ditches within the northern part of the development area, adjacent to Tamage Road, which produced pottery spot dated to the Late Iron Age along with a few earlier Iron Age sherds. A small assemblage of narrow flakes that refitted to a core of Early Neolithic origin was also recovered from a natural tree throw feature. The subsequent excavation targeted the area of Iron Age remains. This work revealed that the ditches partly defined the southern extent of a rectilinear enclosure which encompassed a watering hole and four small pits, possibly representing ad hoc hearths. These features produced material generated from the presumed nearby core of a domestic farmstead setting including: pottery, animal bone, a fragmentary loomweight, wall-surface daub and, significantly, an assemblage of Iron Age worked flint, including cores and other tool forms. In addition, a Colchester derivative Romano-British brooch was recovered from the fill of a natural solution hollow. These investigations also uncovered a set of poorly dated former field boundary ditches whose alignment respected the layout of the surrounding fields shown on 19th century maps of the site.

The excavation has revealed a locally significant group of Middle to Late Iron Age remains in a rural setting rarely excavated in this part of mid Suffolk. The watering hole and its surrounding features probably represent peripheral pastoral activity associated with a farmstead whose origins possibly lay in the Early Iron Age period. Enhanced by the Iron Age flint assemblage, this is a significant addition to the local archaeological record of the period.

Acknowledgements

Oxford Archaeology East would like to thank RPS Consulting Ltd for commissioning this project. OA is grateful to Gemma Stewart (Planning Archaeologist) who monitored the work on behalf of Suffolk County Council, and provided advice and guidance.

The project was managed for Oxford Archaeology East by Pat Moan. The fieldwork was directed by Anthony Haskins, who was supported by Ashley Pooley. Thanks to Trevor Southgate for metal detecting the site. Survey was carried out by Valerio Pinna and the illustrations were produced by Sara Alberigi and Dave W. Brown. Thanks are extended to the teams of OA East staff that cleaned and packaged the finds under the management of Natasha Dodwell, processed the environmental remains under the supervision of Rachel Fosberry, and prepared the archive under the direction of Katherine Hamilton. Thanks are also extended to the various specialists for their contributions.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Scope of work

1.1.1 Between the 8th June and 16th July 2020 Oxford Archaeology East (OA East) carried out an evaluation and subsequent excavation of Land South of Tamage Road, Acton, Suffolk (NGR TL 89168 44599; Fig. 1). RPS Consulting Ltd commissioned and funded this archaeological work in respect of a proposed residential development on the 3.5ha site (Planning Application: DC/19/03126). The evaluation work was undertaken in accordance with an approved Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by OA East (Moan 2020), the preparation of which was informed by a Brief issued by Gemma Stewart of Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Conservation Team (SCCAS/CT; Stewart 2020).

1.1.2 A Desk-Based Assessment (DBA) was undertaken for the development site in 2018 by RPS Consulting Ltd that indicated a low potential for archaeological remains dating from the Roman to medieval periods, and a low to negligible potential for all other periods (Brown 2018). A geophysical survey of the development site was also carried out by SUMO in 2018 that did not identify any archaeology within the site (Fig. 2). All of the other anomalies detected were considered to be more recent linear anomalies, land drains and plough disturbance (RPS (formerly CgMs) 2018).

1.1.3 The current OA East archaeological evaluation uncovered ditches within the northern part of the development area (adjacent to Tamage Road) which produced Late Iron Age pottery along with a few residual earlier Iron Age sherds. An approach was agreed on site between Gemma Stewart (SCCAS) and Duncan Hawkins of RPS Consulting Ltd, to open a 0.35ha excavation area to investigate the Iron Age remains and define their extent.

1.2 Location, topography and geology

1.2.1 Acton is a small village and parish located 3km north-east of Sudbury, close to the Suffolk-Essex border. The site itself is situated lies just to the south of the modern village and bounded by Tamage Road to the north, Sudbury Road to the west and Vicarage Lane to the south and east. The site is currently arable farmland (Plate 1).

1.2.2 The site is situated on a gentle, north-west facing slope, from *c*.67m above Ordnance Datum (OD) at the eastern boundary to *c*.60m OD in its north-western corner. No watercourses or bodies of standing water are known to be present within the boundaries of the site, or within close proximity.

1.2.3 The mapped bedrock geology underlying the site is divided roughly equally between the western half of the site as Thanet Formation - Sand - and the eastern half as Crag Group - Sand. This bedrock is overlain by superficial deposits of Lowestoft Formation diamicton (http://www.bgs.ac.uk/discoveringGeology/geologyOfBritain/viewer.html, accessed 7th February 2020).

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

1.3.1 A full search of the Suffolk Historic Environment Record (SHER) of a 1km radius centred on the excavation site was commissioned from SCCAS in February 2020 (under customer number 36954), in advance of the evaluation trenching phase of the investigation. A desk-based assessment (DBA) was also produced that detailed the archaeological potential (Brown 2018). The following is a summary based on this report and on the results of the SHER search, with pertinent records shown on Figure 3.

Earlier prehistoric (c.500,000 - 4000BC)

1.3.2 Earlier prehistoric evidence within 1km of the site is very limited; one Palaeolithic artefact was received during fieldwalking 1.3km to the east of the Site (WFG 018, not plotted on Fig. 3) whilst no evidence for Mesolithic activity has yet been revealed in the study area.

Later prehistoric (c.4000BC - AD 43)

1.3.3 No evidence for Neolithic activity has yet been revealed in the study area. Bronze Age activity is potentially present within the area; two circular cropmarks have been identified from aerial photography, a 40m in diameter cropmark *c*.1.2km north of the site (ACT 016, not plotted on Fig. 3) and a 10m in diameter cropmark *c*.1.3km east from the site (WFG 007, not plotted on Fig. 3). These may represent typical Bronze Age round barrows, however, this has not been proven through investigation.

1.3.4 No evidence for Iron Age activity is known within the area. However, as part of a wider scatter of mainly Roman and medieval metalwork artefacts, a 1st century BC cast potin of Thurrock type was previously found while metal detecting fields 700m to the south-west (ACT 034).

1.3.5 A single bronze Greek coin minted in Ephesus (280-258 BC) was reportedly found by eye in fields 500m to the north of the site (ACT 015).

Roman (c.AD43-410)

1.3.6 The route of the Roman road from Colchester to Long Melford is conjectured to have passed through Great Waldingfield and Acton, possibly within *c*.450m east from the site, to join with the road from Long Melford to the north of Acton (Margary, 1955: 224; WFG 015 and ACT 019, not illustrated). This was projected to cross a development site subject to archaeological evaluation and monitoring north of Rectory House, Walderingfield Road, which uncovered an undated ditch along with a possible prehistoric ditch (ACT 039).

1.3.7 No archaeological features have been recorded within the study area to suggest Roman occupation. However, as part of a scatter of metal detected metalwork on fields 700m to the south-west of the site, Roman coins, a Nertomarus type brooch and a fragment of speculum mirror were found (ACT 034).

1.3.8 More widely, however, there is evidence for Roman sites from field-walking activities which have recorded findspots of Roman pottery sherds, coins, and adornments *c*.530m north (ACT 015) and *c*.1.5km west from the site (LMD 075, not illustrated).

Anglo-Saxon to medieval (c.AD 410-1540)

1.3.9 Acton is not mentioned in the 1086 Domesday Survey. At this time the site was situated equidistant between the large settlements of Long Melford to the west, Lavenham to the north, Little Waldingfield to the east, Newton to the south-east, and Sudbury to the south-west (Open Domesday, accessed 6th February 2020). The Church of All Saints, *c*. 550m north from the site, is of 13th century construction, and contains an early 14th century brass effigy of Sir Robert de Buers (ACT 013). Tyes, or greens, believed to have origins in the medieval period, are recorded at Cuckoo Tye Farm *c*.1.2km west (LMD 213, not illustrated), and Potters Tye Farm (LMD 124, not illustrated) and Newman's Green (LMD 125), *c*.1.5km and 920m south-west, respectively. Acton Hall, *c*.700m north of the site, was constructed during the Victorian period on the remains of an elliptical 12th century moated homestead, believed to be the manor acquired by Sir Robert de Buers in 1311 (ACT 006).

1.3.10 Archaeological evaluation at Albany House, *c*.300m north from the site, encountered a possible medieval ditch on the alignment of a linear green marked on Hodkinson's map of 1783, and interpreted as a boundary (ACT 031). Disturbance to this was believed to represent post-medieval quarrying.

1.3.11 Three silver medieval coins from the 13th century were recovered during a field-walking exercise, *c*.550m north-west from the site (ACT 015).

Post-medieval to modern (c.AD1540-present)

1.3.12 The 17th century great house and parkland of Acton Place was situated between 970m and 1.8km north-west from the site. The house was demolished in 1825, leaving only the servant's wing (ACT 020, not illustrated). The remains of a wall and floor were encountered 50m east from the site of Acton Place, likely associated with an ancillary building (ACT 028, not illustrated).

1.3.13 Sudbury Airfield was built in 1944, to the immediate south of the study area and extended to the south. The airfield was built to "Class A" specifications, allowing heavy bombers to take off from the three concrete runways. The accommodation, control and ancillary buildings were primarily focussed close to Great Waldingfield, *c*.1.2km southeast from the site (ACT 029). Earthworks associated with the airfield, possibly ammunition dumps, are recorded *c*.1.5km south-west from the site (CHT 012, not illustrated).

Undated

1.3.14 A sub-rectangular enclosure noted as a cropmark, *c*.900m north-west from the site, has been conjectured to have prehistoric, Roman or medieval origins, possibly representing a further medieval moated homestead (ACT 007).

1.3.15 Acton was previously subject to geophysical survey on land south east of Barrow Hill (ACT 037).

2 EXCAVATION AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims of the evaluation

2.1.1 The original aims and objectives of the project defined in the WSI for the evaluation phase of the investigation (Moan 2020) were as follows:

i. establish the presence or absence of archaeological remains on the site, characterise where they are found (location, depth and extent), and establish the quality of preservation of any archaeology and environmental remains;
ii. 'Ground-truth' the results of the geophysical survey;
iii. provide sufficient coverage to establish the character, condition, date and purpose of any archaeological deposits;
iv. provide sufficient coverage to evaluate the likely impact of past land uses, and the possible presence of masking deposits;
v. set results in the local, regional, and national archaeological context – and, in particular, its wider cultural landscape and past environmental conditions; and
vi. provide – in the event that archaeological remains are found – sufficient information to construct an archaeological mitigation strategy, dealing with preservation, the recording of archaeological deposits, working practices, timetables, and orders of cost.

2.2 Local and site specific research objectives

2.2.1 Following the discovery of an area of Iron Age occupation adjacent to Tamage Road (Trenches 13, 14 and 16), a further aim was defined for the project through on-site discussions between Gemma Stewart of SCCAS and Duncan Hawkins of RPS Consulting Ltd to mitigate the impact of the development on these remains. The research aims of this targeted phase of excavation was:

vii. to understand the nature and extent of Iron Age remains on the site.

2.3 National Research Aims

2.3.1 The site specific objectives were drawn from, and will contribute to, the goals of Regional Research Frameworks relevant to this area:

Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern counties: 1. Resource Assessment (Glazebrook 1997, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 3);

Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern counties: 2. Research Agenda and Strategy (Brown & Glazebrook 2000, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 8); and

Research and Archaeology Revisited: A Revised Framework for the East of England (Medlycott 2011, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 24).

2.4 Fieldwork Methodology

Evaluation

2.4.1 A total of 25 trenches (Trenches 1-25) were opened to provide a 4% sample of the development area (Fig. 4).

2.4.2 Machine excavation was carried out under constant archaeological supervision with a tracked 360° type excavator using a toothless ditching bucket.

2.4.3 The site survey was carried out using a Leica GPS GS08 with SmartNET.

2.4.4 Spoil, exposed surfaces and features were scanned with a metal detector. All metal-detected and hand-collected finds were retained for inspection.

2.4.5 All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using OA East's pro-forma sheets. Trench locations, plans and sections were recorded at appropriate scales and colour and monochrome photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits.

2.4.6 A total of eight bulk samples were taken from the excavated features. These each totalled between 20-40L and were processed by flotation at OA East's environmental processing facility at Bourn.

2.4.7 The site conditions were good.

2.4.8 Full details by trench/context appear in Appendix A, Table 2.

Excavation

2.4.9 Following the discussions between SCCAS and RPS Consulting Ltd, it was agreed that 0.35ha in total of the development area encompassing the Iron Age remains uncovered by Trenches 13, 14 and 16 be machine stripped to the level of natural geology or the archaeological horizon.

2.4.10 Machine excavation was carried out by a tracked 360° type excavator using a 2m wide flat bladed ditching bucket under constant supervision of a suitably qualified and experienced archaeologist.

2.4.11 The site survey was carried out using a Leica GPS GS08 with SmartNET.

2.4.12 Spoil, exposed surfaces and features were scanned with a metal detector. All metal-detected and hand-collected finds were retained for inspection.

2.4.13 Sufficient excavation was carried out in line with the proportions of each feature class outlined in the original WSI (Moan 2020).

2.4.14 All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using OA East's pro-forma sheets. Trench locations and plans were recorded at appropriate scales and digital photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits.

2.4.15 A total of 5 bulk samples were taken from a range of excavated features. These each totalled between 10-20L and were processed by flotation at OA East's environmental processing facility at Bourn.

2.4.16 Site conditions were good.

3 RESULTS

3.1 Introduction and presentation of results

3.1.1 The proposed development area was initially subject to evaluation, with 25 trenches excavated across its full extent. Subsequently, a single 0.35ha excavation area targeted Iron Age remains encountered by Trenches 13, 14 and 16 along the northern edge of the site adjacent to Tamage Road. The results of both the evaluation and excavation phases of the investigation have been combined in this section to form a unified stratigraphic narrative of the archaeological remains encountered on the site. Trenches 2, 4-8, 11, 12, 15, 17-23 and 25 were all devoid of archaeological features and revealed only a *c*.0.3m thickness of topsoil overlying the natural geology (Plates 2-7).

3.1.2 Very little complex stratigraphy was present on the site although some inter-cutting discrete and linear features were observed. The chronological phasing presented below is largely based on spatial associations and, to a certain extent, similarity of features. Where possible this has been combined with dating evidence provided by stratified artefacts and radiocarbon dating.

3.1.3 Descriptions of the features identified and artefacts recovered are given in this section. Further trench descriptions with dimensions are given in Appendix A.1 supplemented by a full context inventory presented in Appendix A.2, Table 2. A phased excavation plan of the results of these investigations across the development site is presented as Figure 4. A more detailed plan of the Period 2 (Iron Age) archaeology uncovered by the excavation area is shown on Figure 5. Sections of features are included as Figures 6 and 7. Photographs of a selection of features are provided in Plates 8-16.

3.1.4 Three main periods of activity have been identified:

Period 1: Natural features

Geological solution hollow and tree throw

Period 2: Middle to Late Iron Age (*c*.350BC-AD50)

Ditch 1300, Ditch 1400, pits and watering hole

Period 3: Post-medieval (*c*.AD1540-1750)

Former field boundary ditches

3.2 Further considerations

3.2.1 The natural solution hollow of geological origin encountered in the excavation area is described within the stratigraphic narrative below, however, this feature does not contribute to the research aims set out in Section 2 and will not be discussed further. This same approach has been taken for the post-medieval ditches that relate to mapped evidence for 19th century and earlier land division given in the previous DBA produced for site (Brown 2018).

3.2.2 A small assemblage of narrow flakes that refitted to a core was recovered from Period 1 tree throw **2400** uncovered by Trench 24 in the eastern extremity of the site. This material is likely to have derived from transient Early Neolithic activity that was

subsequently reworked into later tree root disturbance. This flintwork falls outside of the scope of research aims presented in Section 2 and is fully described in Appendix B.2 and will therefore not be discussed further.

3.3 General soils and ground conditions

3.3.1 In general, the trenches were shallow, between 0.25-0.35m deep and revealed the underlying geology to consist of firm reddish-brown clay or chalk rich clay with occasional flint gravel inclusions. These deposits are therefore consistent with the superficial geology (Diamicton/glacial till) given by the BGS Survey (see Section 1.2.3).

3.3.2 The overlying soil sequence was fairly uniform, excepting towards the site's western boundary with Sudbury Road, where a yellowish-brown clayey sand colluvium was recorded overlying the geology in Trenches 2 and 4 to a maximum thickness of *c*.0.7m. There was an absence of any protective subsoil across the remainder of the site with the natural geology overlain directly by a *c*.0.3m thickness of topsoil, which produced a total of eight worked flints and seven metalwork items of post-medieval to modern date.

3.3.3 Ground conditions throughout the excavation were good and the evaluation trenches and excavation area remained dry. Archaeological features, where present, were easy to identify against the underlying natural geology.

3.4 Period 1: Natural features

Solution hollow

3.4.1 A large, sub-circular discrete feature (**2610**) up to *c*.10m in diameter was revealed in the eastern part of the excavation area which proved to be a soil filled solution hollow of geological origin (Fig. 4). These features are often encountered on geological boundaries such as that indicated to lie beneath the central part of the development area or on underlying Thanet or Crag sand bedrock, with many still extant as broad circular depressions in the wider landscape.

3.4.2 A test pit was excavated into this hollow's infill to a depth of 0.9m by mechanical excavator to investigate its extent and to sample the resultant spoil for finds (Fig. 7, Section 25; Plate 8). Its light yellowish-brown clayey silt fill (2625) produced an Early Romano-British Colchester derivative brooch (SF 1). This find demonstrates the gradual accumulation and downward trajectory of deposits within these natural features over a broad span of time.

Tree throw

3.4.3 The evaluation trenches only uncovered a single natural feature, a tree throw (**2400**) in Trench 24, in the eastern extremity of the site (Fig. 4). It was a sub-circular feature up to 0.76m in diameter and 0.18m in depth with an irregular profile (Fig. 6, Section 11; Plate 9). It contained a single fill (2401) of greyish brown clayey silt which produced a small but coherent assemblage of 19 worked flints (which included narrow flakes that refitted to a core) of Early Neolithic date.

3.5 Period 2: Middle to Late Iron Age (*c.*350BC-AD50)

Enclosure

3.5.1 The southern part of a rectilinear ditched enclosure, which encompassed an area of at least 90m x 30m, was uncovered by the excavation (Figs 4 and 5). Its extent was defined by two ditches along its western (Ditch 1300) and southern (Ditch 1400) sides, first revealed by evaluation Trenches 13, 14 and 16. The excavated profiles of the termini of each ditch demonstrated the 35m wide gap between them at the enclosure's south-western corner was probably deliberate, rather than being a product of truncation.

3.5.2 The fills of these ditches, unlike the pits and watering hole attributed to this phase, produced pottery sherds of exclusively Early and Middle Iron Age-type fabrics with an absence of Late Iron Age/Early Roman fabrics or of wheel-made forms. However, in Suffolk, Middle and Late Iron Age fabric types are known to overlap and, furthermore, the hand-made Middle Iron Age potting tradition appears to have continued throughout the Late Iron Age alongside wheel-made and 'Belgic' pottery forms (see Section 3.7.4; App. B.3.20 and B.3.24). There was no evidence for the recutting/clearing out/maintenance of either of the ditch profiles.

Ditch 1300

3.5.3 Entering the excavation from the north-north-east, Ditch 1300 (comprising cuts **1300** and **1301**) extended for 20m before terminating. It measured between 0.8-1.2m wide and 0.5-0.6m deep with a steep-sided V-shaped profile (Fig. 6, Sections 7 and 8; Plate 10). Its single fill (1302 and 1303 respectively) consisted of dark greyish brown silty clay with frequent charcoal inclusions that produced two sherds (11g) of Middle Iron Age pottery, 28 sherds (146g) of Early Iron Age pottery, 18 worked flints and a fragment of animal bone.

Ditch 1400

3.5.4 On a perpendicular west-north-west to east-south-east axis, Ditch 1400 (comprising cuts **1400**, **1600**, **2600**, **2602**, **2604**, **2606** and **2607**) extended for 50m across the excavation and truncated the fill of the natural solution hollow. It measured between 0.8-1.2m wide and 0.14-0.4m deep with a more rounded V-shaped profile than Ditch 1300 (Fig. 6, Sections 9, 10 and 15; Fig. 7, Sections 17-20; Plate 11) and a similar fill (1401, 1601, 2601, 2603, 2605, 2616 and 2620 respectively). The fills produced 76 sherds (800g) of Middle Iron Age pottery (App. Fig. B.3.1, **V.7**), three fragments of cattle and sheep/goat bone and a residual sherd (11g) of Early Iron Age pottery. The fills also yielded 72 worked flints predominantly comprised of Iron Age material with a residual earlier prehistoric component. Samples of the fill of cuts **1600** and **2606** produced only a hazelnut fragment and a charred barley grain respectively. A probably intrusive sherd (7g) of Middle/Late Iron Age pottery was also recovered from the fill.

Pits

3.5.5 Extending for 65m along the northern side of Ditch 14, on a parallel alignment, lay a linear arrangement of four small circular pits spaced between 15-25m apart whose fills consisted of mid reddish brown clay (Fig. 5). The alignment of these pits alongside Ditch 1400 suggests the Middle Iron Age enclosure was probably still respected as an extant earthwork into this later period, notwithstanding the infilling of the ditch's lower profiles below the geological horizon, whose excavated deposits produced exclusively pottery sherds of Early and Middle Iron Age-type fabrics.

3.5.6 The most easterly pit (**2611**) measured 0.45m in diameter and 0.1m deep (Fig. 7, Section 23). It was filled by a charcoal rich deposit (2623) that yielded four worked flints.

3.5.7 To the west, pit **2612** measured 0.56m in diameter and 0.04m deep (Fig. 7, Section 24). A layer of large limestone cobbles was observed overlying the base of this feature overlain by its fill (2624).

3.5.8 Further west lay sub-circular pit **2626** which measured 1.2m in diameter by 0.2m deep with vertical sides and a flat base. Its fill (2627) produced nine sherds (52g) of Late Iron Age/Early Roman pottery, seven sherds (48g) of Middle Iron Age pottery and four worked flints (Fig. 7, Section 26; Plate 12).

3.5.9 The westernmost pit (**2613**) was sub-rectangular in shape and measured 0.84m long by 0.3m wide, with vertical sides and a flat base to a depth of 0.1m (Fig. 6, Section 14). It contained a dark grey clay fill (2615) which yielded seven sherds (53g) of Late Iron Age/Early Roman pottery, five sherds (34g) of Middle/Late Iron Age pottery, 17 sherds (145g) of Middle Iron Age pottery and a worked flint.

3.5.10 Approximately 80m to the west of pit **2613**, Trench 3 revealed a further small, shallow pit (**306**) with a similar fill that may tentatively be attributed to this period. This sub-rectangular discrete feature measured 1.4m wide and 0.14m deep (Fig. 6, Section 6; Plate 13). Its fill (307) produced no finds.

Watering hole

3.5.11 A large sub-circular pit (**2614=2630**) between 5-9m in diameter, perhaps best interpreted as a watering hole, was revealed within the enclosure, 2m to the north of Ditch 1400 (Fig. 5). It was hand excavated to the maximum safe working depth of 1.2m below ground level to reveal its steep sided profile (Fig. 6, Section 16; Fig. 7, Section 28; Plate 14). The concave base was reached by hand-driven auger boreholes at a maximum depth of 1.5m. A mixture of Middle, Middle/Late Iron Age and Late Iron Age/Early Roman sherds were recovered from its primary, secondary and tertiary fills, alluding to this features possible longevity of use, with its eventual backfilling probably occurring around the close of the Iron Age period. The associated animal bone assemblage was dominated by domesticates but included a single fragment of red and fallow deer antler from each of the primary, secondary and tertiary fills (2631, 2632 and 2633).

3.5.12 The primary fill (2617=2631) was a 0.5m thick deposit of light brownish yellow, chalk-rich clay which yielded seven sherds (55g) of Late Iron Age/Early Roman pottery, five

sherds (43g) of Middle/Late Iron Age pottery, 23 sherds (228g) of Middle Iron Age pottery (App. B.3.1, **V.32**), 18 fragments of cattle, sheep/goat, horse and pig bone and 22 worked flints. A fragment of sheep/goat bone was radiocarbon dated to 200-50 cal BC (95.4% confidence; BRAMS-4244; 2114±25 BP).

3.5.13 The secondary fill was a 0.46m thick deposit of reddish-brown silty clay with frequent gravel and sub-angular flint inclusions (2618=2632) which produced nine sherds (251g) of Late Iron Age/Early Roman pottery (App. B.3.1, **V.39**), three sherds (22g) of Middle/Late Iron Age pottery, 62 sherds (431g) of Middle Iron Age pottery, a fragment (5g) of wall-surface daub, five fragments of cattle bone and 34 worked flints.

3.5.14 The tertiary/uppermost fill (2619=2633) consisted of mid reddish-brown silty clay up to 0.6m thick that yielded 48 sherds (502g) of Late Iron Age/Early Roman pottery (App. B.3.1, **V.61**), 26 sherds (175g) of Middle/Late Iron Age pottery, 61 sherds (542g) of Middle Iron Age pottery, fragments (123g) of a triangular Iron Age loomweight and 14 fragments of cattle, sheep/goat, horse and pig bone. A large quantity (160 items) of flintwork was also recovered from the uppermost fill which included a number of items of probable Iron Age origin (see App. Fig. B.2.1). The good condition and character of the flintwork from the watering hole suggests the primary deposition of Iron Age flintwork including: single-platform flake cores (App. Fig. B.2.1, **F1**-**F2**), hard hammer struck end scrapers (App. Fig. B.2.1, **F3**), an awl or piercer and retouched items (App. Fig. B.2.1, **F4**-**F5**)) with only a residual element of earlier prehistoric material (e.g Neolithic horseshoe scraper).

3.6 Period 3: Post-medieval (*c.*AD 1540-1750)

Recent field boundaries

3.6.1 Both the excavation and a small number of evaluation trenches revealed elements of a large network of enclosed parcels of land extending across the full extent of the site (Fig. 4). These were defined by a set of field boundary ditches on shared north-south and east-west alignments. Historical maps presented in the DBA for the site clearly shows this site previously formed part of a wider arrangement of fields on this orientation to the north of Vicarage Lane as recently as 1958 (Brown 2018, figs 4-10).

Trenches 1 and 3

3.6.2 In the western part of the site, three closely spaced ditch alignments (on a broadly north-south alignment) appeared to traverse the full extent of the site. This was evidently a long-standing boundary which probably defined the limit between the more level part of the field to the east and the sloping ground to the west, which descended to Sudbury Lane along the site's western boundary. This area of sloping ground corresponds to the build-up of colluvium observed in Trenches 2 and 4 (see Section 3.3.2).

3.6.3 The easternmost ditch alignment excavated in Trench 1 (**101**) and Trench 3 (**300**) measured 0.7m wide and 0.26-0.3m deep with a U-shaped profile (Fig. 6, Sections 2 and 3; Plate 15). Its fill (104 and 301 respectively) consisted of mid reddish-brown clay.

3.6.4 Immediately to the west lay a closely parallel ditch which extended through Trench 1 (**100**) and Trench 3 (**302**) on a slightly diverging alignment. It measured between 1.2-

1.5m wide and 0.26-0.3m deep with a U-shaped profile that contained two fills (Fig. 6, Sections 1 and 4; Plate 16). The primary fill (102 and 303) measured 0.1m thick and consisted of mid brownish-red sandy clay and the secondary fill (103 and 308) measured 0.2m thick, consisting mid to dark brownish-red clay which yielded a sherd of Middle Iron Age pottery (13g) and a worked flint.

3.6.5 A third closely parallel ditch (**304**) was excavated to the west of ditch **302** in Trench 3 that measured 1.9m wide and 0.66m deep with a U-shaped profile (Fig. 6, Section 5). It contained two fills: the primary fill of light yellowish brown chalk rich clay (309) extended down the eastern side of the ditch which possibly represents weathered bank material; and the secondary fill (305) consisted of mid reddish brown clay. Only a single cattle bone fragment and four residual sherds (22g) of Middle Iron Age pottery were recovered from its fill.

Trenches 9 and 10

3.6.6 A single ditch alignment extended through Trench 9 (**900**) and Trench 10 (**1000**) in the southern part of the site. It measured between 0.8-1.1m wide and up to 0.2m deep with a U-shaped profile (Fig. 6, Sections 12 and 13) and contained a single fill of mid greyish brown silty clay (901 and 1001).

Excavation area

3.6.7 A broadly east to west aligned ditch (comprising cuts **2608**, **2609** and **2628**) extended across the eastern part of the excavation area that measured up to 0.8m wide and 0.26m deep with a U-shaped profile (Fig. 7, Sections 21, 22, 25 and 27). Its mid reddish-brown silty clay fill (2621, 2622 and 2629 respectively) produced a small assemblage (nine pieces, 877g) of medieval/early post-medieval tile and brick.

3.7 Finds and environmental summary

Introduction

3.7.1 The finds recovered the excavated features consisted of: residual Mesolithic and Neolithic flintwork; Iron Age pottery, flintwork, fired clay and animal bone; an early Romano-British brooch; fragments of post-medieval tile and brick; and a post-medieval or modern buckle and button.

Metalwork

3.7.2 The assemblage consists of 13 fragments of metalwork relating to a total of 13 artefacts (mostly iron nails) recovered from the topsoil and archaeological features. An Early Romano-British Colchester derivative brooch (SF 1) was recovered from the fill of natural solution hollow **2610**. A post-medieval or modern buckle was found in the topsoil.

Flint

3.7.3 During the evaluation and following excavation, an assemblage of 328 struck and burnt flints were recovered from the site. Tree throw **2400** produced a small recorticated assemblage of narrow flakes that refitted to a core most likely to be of Early Neolithic

date. The generally good condition and character of the flintwork from the Period 2 features suggests that this is primary deposition of Iron Age flintwork with some residual material. Much of the assemblage recovered from Acton meets the criteria for Iron Age flint working as defined by Young and Humphrey (1999). This is further supported by the presence of refitting material within the assemblage from Iron Age features. In conclusion, most of the assemblage is certainly Iron Age in date and as such of archaeological significance.

Late Iron Age pottery

3.7.4 The combined evaluation and excavation yielded a total of 402 sherds (3601g) of Iron Age pottery. The pottery ranged in date from the Early Iron Age through to the Late Iron Age/Early Roman period, with the majority being of Middle/Late Iron Age (293 sherds, 2521g, *c*.350BC-AD50) and Late Iron Age/Early Roman (80 sherds, 913g, *c*.50BC-AD50) date and a small amount of Early Iron Age origin (29 sherds, 167g, *c*.600-350BC). The excavation yielded a small assemblage of plain and undiagnostic sherds of Early Iron Age pottery which indicates the presence of earlier occupation of the site. Most of the pottery can be given a general Middle/later Iron Age date (*c*.350BC-AD50) displaying a range of vessels and fabrics typical for Suffolk. The hand-made Middle Iron Age potting tradition appears to have continued throughout the Late Iron Age in Suffolk, persisting alongside the introduction of wheel-made ceramics and grog tempered 'Belgic' pottery from *c*.50BC in some contexts. The pottery implies that activity on this site did not continue beyond the mid/late 1st century AD.

Ceramic building material

3.7.5 Brick and tile fragments were recovered from a Period 3 boundary ditch that extended across the excavation area, some of which was clearly medieval, and some of it less diagnostic and fragmentary, but some of it nevertheless 14th-16th century in date.

Fired clay

3.7.6 A total of 123g of a probable worked clay triangular loomweight and 32g of fired clay (including a fragment of wall-surface daub) were recovered from the Period 2 watering hole. The analysis of this very fragmentary assemblage would appear to confirm an Iron Age association for this feature.

Faunal remains

3.7.7 Excavations at the site uncovered a total of 37 recordable fragments of animal bone of which the vast majority came from the Period 2 watering hole. Of these 26 fragments were identifiable to species: cattle, horse, sheep/goat, pig and red deer. A single unidentifiable bird bone was also recorded. Fusion data is recordable from seven fragments. Although the dataset is small it can be tentatively suggested that cattle were being used for secondary products such as milk. While sheep and pigs were slaughtered earlier and were primarily kept for meat consumption. Two fragments of red deer antler display saw marks removing the tines and saw marks on the base of the antler. A pig mandible shows evidence of a single chop mark.

Environmental bulk samples

3.7.8 A total of 13 bulk samples were taken from the site produced only a single fragment of a hazelnut and a single barley grain recovered from Period 2 Ditch 1400.

Radiocarbon dating

3.7.9 A single sample of sheep/goat bone was selected for radiocarbon dating from the primary fill (2617) of Period 2 watering hole **2614**=**2630** (Table 1; App. C.3). This produced a date of 198-50 cal BC (95.4% confidence), essentially covering the second half of the Middle Iron Age.

Sample type	Cxt.	Cut	Feature type	Period	Radiocarbon age (BP)	Calibrated date range	Certificate
Bone (sheep/goat)	2617	2614	Watering hole	2	2114±25 BP	198-50 cal BC (95.4% confidence)	BRAMS-4244

Table 1: Radiocarbon dating results

4 DISCUSSION

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 The evaluation and excavation work south of Tamage Road uncovered a partly enclosed watering hole feature, which, on the basis of the domestic detritus recovered from its fills and from its surrounding features (pottery, fragmentary loomweight, wall-surface daub, animal bone, and flintwork) was peripheral to a rural farmstead settlement occupied during the Middle to Late Iron Age period with some ceramic evidence for a possible Early Iron Age origin. This site is situated on the edge of a clayland plateau poor in known Iron Age sites with only two enclosures of the period known from cropmarks. Conversely, there is a relatively richer landscape of known Iron Age remains within the River Stour Valley, coming to light through recent development-led archaeology in the towns of Long Melford and Sudbury. The date range determined by the pottery assemblage for the current site has, bolstered by a radiocarbon date from the watering hole feature, indicates this feature may have been finally infilled and the nearby farmstead abandoned around the beginning of the Romano-British period. These findings are hampered by only a small assemblage of faunal remains mostly recovered from the damper fills of the watering hole with a similar paucity of ecofacts from environmental samples generally. It can only be assumed that the acidic soil has adversely affected the preservation of organic remains.

4.2 Middle to Late Iron Age remains

Chronology

4.2.1 Overall, the OA East excavations appear to have uncovered peripheral remains relating to a domestic farmstead setting. An enclosed group of remains was revealed centred on what is interpreted as a watering hole, which has been dated by pottery and a radiocarbon date to have been in use during the Middle and Late Iron Age periods. Significantly, the features were also found to contain quantities of diagnostically late prehistoric flintwork, probably of Iron Age origin, which is increasingly being recognised within the archaeological record (App. B.2.15). There is no stratigraphic based evidence that this settlement site developed from an earlier Iron Age precursor. However, the notable proportion of sherds in a fabric attributed to the Early Iron Age recovered from the fill of Period 2 Ditch 1300 certainly indicates an Early Iron Age presence and the reworking of earlier material, possibly a result of the clearance of middens. The lack of any 'late' fabrics from the enclosure ditches fills mark them out as having at least partly infilled with no further reinstatement as the occupation of this site continued into the Late Iron Age period. The overlapping presence of both Middle/Late Iron Age and Early Roman-type ceramic fabrics from the pits and throughout the watering hole deposit sequence probably in part reflects the continued use of 'middle' Iron Age fabric traditions into the Late Iron Age and beyond, into the Early Roman period. The accumulation of residual material across this broad timespan within the settlement and possible deliberate infilling of the watering hole around the end of the Iron Age period would also have contributed towards the mixed distribution of pottery fabrics observed on this site.

4.2.2 The lack of any later ceramics from the watering hole may suggest it was infilled as part of a wider reorganisation of the farmstead or that any remaining settlement in the vicinity was finally abandoned by the Romano-British period. The recovery of the Colchester derivative brooch from the surface of the natural solution hollow probably merely represents a casually lost item in the rural hinterland of the known Romano-British roadside settlement at Long Melford (see Section 1.3.6).

The remains

4.2.3 Three separate elements were distinguished in the layout of features during the excavation: the enclosure ditches; the linear group of small shallow pits; and a large discrete feature of greater depth whose damp primary fills suggested it to have possibly been excavated as a watering-hole, presumably for watering livestock. The perpendicular alignment of Ditches 1300 and 1400 appeared to form the southern extent of an enclosed area of ground surrounding the watering hole which extended to the north of the excavation and Tamage Road. The profiles of the ditch termini suggest the substantial gaps in its circuit were deliberate to its layout. The layout of this type of intermittent enclosure may best be explained as having afforded some control to the movement of livestock around the presumed watering hole. The wide gaps in this enclosure's outer circuit and the relatively shallow depths of the ditches would preclude it having acted as an effective coral dedicated to pen livestock. The recovery of pottery sherds from the ditch fills in exclusively Early and Middle Iron Age-type fabrics suggest that, whereas the watering hole was maintained as an open feature into the Late Iron Age, the ditches were allowed to infill naturally and were not reinstated.

4.2.4 The enclosure's southern boundary was nevertheless flanked by a linear series of four shallow pits, suggesting the continued presence of at least a partly open and visible linear ditch remnant and/or bank into the Late Iron Age period. Two of the pits contained pottery sherds of Late Iron Age/Early Roman date suggesting they post-dated the original establishment of the enclosure. Their possible function as ad hoc cooking pits or hearths for pastoral herders nearby the watering hole, although only given as a tentative interpretation, is perhaps supported by the charcoal-rich deposit of one of the pits (**2611**) and the layer of cobbles across the base of a second (**2612**). A pit of similar morphology was uncovered in Trench 3 to the west of the excavation which may also be associated with Late Iron Age activity.

4.2.5 There was no evidence for any post holes or gullies indicative of associated dwellings, although the notable absence of any protective subsoil across this part of the site would have had a detrimental effect on the potential for survival of the less substantial types of features usually associated with Late Iron Age houses. The small amount of wall-surface daub from the watering hole provided the only tentative clue to the presence of such structures nearby (App. B.4.3). As discussed above, there remains the potential for domestic dwellings to have lain nearby. On the basis of the layout of features uncovered by the excavation and the wider evaluation results, these may have lain to the north of Tamage Road.

Diet of the inhabitants

4.2.6 The watering hole fills produced almost all of the animal bone recovered from the site. The fragments belong to the typical range of the larger domesticated animals of the period kept primarily for meat – cattle, sheep/goat, pig, horse – with both chopped and burnt items identified to indicate their consumption within the wider farmstead nearby (App. C.1.10). These animals would also have provided secondary products such as milk and raw materials such as hides and horn. The identifiable fragments are dominated by cattle and with a lesser proportion of sheep/goat, pig and horse. The very limited bone fusion data determined the presence of cattle of sufficient age to be used for dairying (App. C.1.8). Red deer antler was also identified, highlighting the additional input of wild game into diet with saw marks demonstrating the secondary use antler from these animals (App. C.1.10). The poor conditions for the preservation of plant remains on this site was evident with soil samples only yielding a single grain of barley.

Activities

4.2.7 The utilitarian character of the Iron Age pottery forms (neckless barrel-shaped jars/bowls or slightly globular pots and small slack-shouldered necked vessels) and animal bone (which included chopped and burnt items) is typical of the surviving waste materials excavated from feature fills which suggest the presence of nearby domestic activity associated with the preparation, cooking and serving of food. The only evidence for craft activities within this settlement was the fragmentary loomweight associated with the production of cloth (App. B.4.3-4). Significantly, a good assemblage of Iron Age worked flint was found to be associated with the manufacture of flint tools at this site including end scrapers, a flake with micro-denticulations, an awl or piercer, a notched item, retouched items and other expedient tool forms (see App. Fig. B.2.1, **F1**-**F5**).

The Iron Age farmstead in context

4.2.8 Although the SHER search of the immediate area of the site did not reveal any contemporary listings that may be associated with the remains uncovered by this excavation, a wider survey gives a better appreciation of this site's situation within the surrounding Iron Age landscape. The topography of Babergh District undulates between low-lying plateaus of the Suffolk claylands and intervening valleys with their lighter soils and rivers. These plateau and riverine zones are separated for the purpose of this discussion along the 60m OD contour on Figure 8.

The plateau zone

4.2.9 The site lies towards the edge of the plateau zone overlooking the River Stour. There is a noticeable dearth of Iron Age findspots in general across this landscape. There are, however, two notable cropmarks of both a 'banjo' enclosure and a D-shaped enclosure on the plateau to the north; both of which are characteristic of the Late Iron Age (Fig. 8, nos 2 and 3). The only further site uncovered by this non exhaustive survey upon the clayland plateau was near to Kentwell Hall where Mid-Late Iron Age ditches and pottery had been exposed by a pipeline (Fig. 8, no. 18; Hickling 2013).

The riverine zone

4.2.10 The far richer array of Iron Age remains plotted within the riverine zone of the Stour Valley and its tributaries probably reflects the higher incidence of chance discovery of surface finds within this more populated zone and archaeological work as a result of recent developments within Long Melford and Sudbury. Nevertheless, communication routes across this past landscape and settlements themselves may also have gravitated towards more open environments and lighter soils offered by such valleys. Evidence for Early Iron Age settlement sites have been unearthed by excavations at Chilton, Sudbury and more recently at Bull Lane, Long Melford (Fig. 8, nos 26 and 27 respectively). The archaeological work at Long Melford merely uncovered two pits containing burnt flint and charcoal dated by radiocarbon dating assay (Firth 2018). However, the more extensive group of remains excavated at Chilton was of an enclosed farmstead indicated by mollusc analysis to have been established in a wooded environment rather than open country (Abbott 1998). There was no evidence for continuation into the later Iron Age on that site, however, more recent excavations nearby that site at Chilton Industrial Estate have uncovered Late Iron Age features and pottery (Fig. 8, no. 6; Caruth 2002).

4.2.11 Evidence for Late Iron Age activity is more widespread within the environs of Long Melford and Sudbury. A total of nine Late Iron Age coins or *staters* have previously been found in the vicinity of Long Melford as surface finds. Archaeological work as a result of recent development of these towns has brought to light evidence for Late Iron settlement. In the vicinity of a previously discovered Iron Age inhumation at Long Melford (Fig. 8, no. 8) further inhumation and cremation burials were discovered during excavation work at the Primary School site. Settlement activity of this period was alluded to by residual Late Iron Age finds in later features (Fig. 8, no. 17; Brooks 2016). Nearby excavations at Rivish Lane (Sims 2012) and Chapel Green (Pooley 2016) uncovered settlement remains in the form of Late Iron Age pits (Fig. 8, nos 19 and 20 respectively). This activity probably extended to the north where further pits, ditches and pottery of this period had previously been discovered (Fig. 8, nos 15 and 16). Further north, past findings of both inhumation and cremation burials are known on the northern fringe of the town towards Chad Brook associated with Late Iron Age vessels (Fig. 8, nos 10 and 21). A further findspot of Late Iron Age pottery is located near to the course of Chad Brook to the east of Long Melford (Fig. 8, no. 4).

4.2.12 Where the loop of the River Stour at Sudbury Iron Age pottery redevelopment work has unearthed settlement features such as ditched enclosures, pits and a curved gully (Fig. 8, nos 23, 24 and 25). A scatter of Late Iron Age artefacts and a burial has also previously been discovered on the opposing bank (Fig. 8, no. 5).

The site

4.2.13 The findings of the current excavation complement this wider narrative of less substantial evidence for Early Iron Age occupation giving way to more extensive Middle to Later Iron Age settlement remains in the local landscape. This excavation is therefore significant in demonstrating the continued potential for the discovery of rural Iron Age settlement remains on the fringes of villages out-with the more intensively investigated River Stour Valley.

4.3 Significance

4.3.1 The remains encountered in this excavation are of local significance, providing a secure radiocarbon date for rural pottery traditions associated with a rarely excavated Middle to Late Iron Age farmstead setting in mid Suffolk. The importance of these remains is enhanced further by an associated assemblage of Iron Age flintwork whose significance has increasingly been recognised within the archaeological record of this period.

5 PUBLICATION AND ARCHIVING

5.1 Publication

5.1.1 A publication proposal will be submitted to the *Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History* with the aim of publishing a short note on the Middle to Late Iron Age remains in the Institute's journal. The article will be submitted by the end of 2021.

5.1.2 The site archive is currently held by OA East and will be deposited with SCCAS under the site code/accession number ACT045 in 2021. The archive will comprise a total of two bulk finds boxes and one paperwork box. SCCAS will also receive a copy of the digital archive held by OA East.

5.2 Archiving, Retention and Dispersal

5.2.1 The site archive is currently held by OA East and will be deposited with SCCAS under the site code/accession number ACT045 in 2021. The archive will comprise a total of two bulk finds boxes and one paperwork box. SCCAS will also receive a copy of the digital archive held by OA East.

APPENDIX A TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTEXT INVENTORY

A.1 Trench Descriptions

Trench 1							
General description						**Orientation**	E-W
Consists of topsoil and colluvium overlying natural geology with two post-medieval ditches.						**Length (m)**	30
						Width (m)	2
						Avg. depth (m)	0.35
Context No.	**Type**	**Fill Of**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
100	Cut		1.12	0.4	Ditch		Post-med.
101	Cut		0.7	0.3	Ditch		Post-med.
102	Fill	100	1.12	0.12	Ditch		Post-med.
103	Fill	100	0.9	0.29	Ditch	1 x flint; 1 x sherd MIA pot.	Post-med.
104	Fill	101	0.7	0.3	Ditch		Post-med.
105	Layer			0.3	Topsoil		
106	Layer			0.4	Colluvium		

Trench 2							
General description						**Orientation**	N-S
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and colluvium overlying natural geology.						**Length (m)**	30
						Width (m)	2
						Avg. depth (m)	1
Context No.	**Type**	**Fill Of**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
200	Layer			0.3	Topsoil		
201	Layer			0.7	Colluvium		

Trench 3							
General description						**Orientation**	NW-SE
Consists of topsoil and colluvium overlying natural geology with one Mid-Late Iron Age pit and three post-medieval ditches.						**Length (m)**	30
						Width (m)	2
						Avg. depth (m)	0.35
Context No.	**Type**	**Fill Of**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
300	Cut		0.7	0.3	Ditch		Post-med.
301	Fill	300	0.7	0.3	Ditch		Post-med.
302	Cut		1.5	0.5	Ditch		Post-med.
303	Fill	302	1.3	0.2	Ditch		Post-med.
304	Cut		1.9	0.75	Ditch		Post-med.

Trench 3							
General description						**Orientation**	NW-SE
Consists of topsoil and colluvium overlying natural geology with one Mid-Late Iron Age pit and three post-medieval ditches.						**Length (m)**	30
						Width (m)	2
						Avg. depth (m)	0.35
Context No.	**Type**	**Fill Of**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
305	Fill	304	1.4	0.3	Ditch	4 x sherds MIA pot.; 1 x animal bone frag.	Post-med.
306	Cut		1.4	0.13	Pit		Mid-Late Iron Age
307	Fill	306	1.4	0.13	Pit		Mid-Late Iron Age
308	Fill	302	1.5	0.33	Ditch		Post-med.
309	Fill	304	1.7	0.4	Ditch		Post-med.
310	Layer			0.3	Topsoil		
311	Layer			0.4	Colluvium		

Trench 4							
General description						**Orientation**	N-S
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil and colluvium overlying natural geology.						**Length (m)**	30
						Width (m)	2
						Avg. depth (m)	0.95
Context No.	**Type**	**Fill Of**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
400	Layer			0.3	Topsoil		
401	Layer			0.65	Colluvium		

Trench 5							
General description						**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology.						**Length (m)**	30
						Width (m)	2
						Avg. depth (m)	0.3
Context No.	**Type**	**Fill Of**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
500	Layer			0.3	Topsoil		

Trench 6							
General description						**Orientation**	N-S
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology.						**Length (m)**	30
						Width (m)	2
						Avg. depth (m)	0.3
Context No.	**Type**	**Fill Of**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
600	Layer			0.3	Topsoil		

Trench 7							
General description						**Orientation**	SW-NE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology.						**Length (m)**	30
						Width (m)	2
						Avg. depth (m)	0.3
Context No.	**Type**	**Fill Of**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
700	Layer			0.3	Topsoil		

Trench 8							
General description						**Orientation**	N-S
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology.						**Length (m)**	30
						Width (m)	2
						Avg. depth (m)	0.3
Context No.	**Type**	**Fill Of**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
800	Layer			0.3	Topsoil		

Trench 9							
General description						**Orientation**	WNW-ESE
Consists of topsoil and colluvium overlying natural geology with one post-medieval ditch.						**Length (m)**	30
						Width (m)	2
						Avg. depth (m)	0.3
Context No.	**Type**	**Fill Of**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
900	Cut		1.1	0.2	Ditch		Post-med.
901	Fill	900	1.1	0.2	Ditch		Post-med.
902	Layer			0.3	Topsoil		

Trench 10							
General description						**Orientation**	E-W
Consists of topsoil and colluvium overlying natural geology with one post-medieval ditch.						**Length (m)**	30
						Width (m)	2
						Avg. depth (m)	0.3
Context No.	**Type**	**Fill Of**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1000	Cut		0.8	0.16	Ditch		Post-med.
1001	Fill	1000	0.8	0.16	Ditch		Post-med.
1002	Layer			0.3	Topsoil		

Trench 11							
General description						**Orientation**	N-S
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology.						**Length (m)**	30
						Width (m)	2
						Avg. depth (m)	0.3
Context No.	**Type**	**Fill Of**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1100	Layer			0.3	Topsoil		

Trench 12							
General description						**Orientation**	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology.						**Length (m)**	30
						Width (m)	2
						Avg. depth (m)	0.3
Context No.	**Type**	**Fill Of**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1200	Layer			0.3	Topsoil		

Trench 13							
General description						**Orientation**	SW-NE
Consists of topsoil and colluvium overlying natural geology with one Mid-Late Iron Age ditch.						**Length (m)**	30
						Width (m)	2
						Avg. depth (m)	0.3
Context No.	**Type**	**Fill Of**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1300	Cut		1.2	0.6	Ditch		Mid-Late Iron Age
1301	Cut		0.8	0.48	Ditch		Mid-Late Iron Age
1302	Fill	1300	1.2	0.6	Ditch	13 x flints; 25 x sherds EIA pot.; 1 x animal bone frag.	Mid-Late Iron Age
1303	Fill	1301	0.8	0.48	Ditch	3 x sherds EIA pot.; 2 x sherds MIA pot.	Mid-Late Iron Age
1304	Layer			0.3	Topsoil		

Trench 14							
General description						**Orientation**	N-S
Consists of topsoil and colluvium overlying natural geology with one Mid-Late Iron Age ditch.						**Length (m)**	30
						Width (m)	2
						Avg. depth (m)	0.3
Context No.	**Type**	**Fill Of**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1400	Cut		1.2	0.36	Ditch		Mid-Late Iron Age
1401	Fill	1400	1.2	0.36	Ditch	12 x flints; 18 x sherds MIA pot.	Mid-Late Iron Age
1402	Layer			0.3	Topsoil		

Trench 15							
General description						**Orientation**	SW-NE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology.						**Length (m)**	30
						Width (m)	2
						Avg. depth (m)	0.3
Context No.	**Type**	**Fill Of**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1500	Layer			0.3	Topsoil		

Trench 16							
General description						**Orientation**	NW-SE
Consists of topsoil and colluvium overlying natural geology with one Mid-Late Iron Age ditch.						**Length (m)**	30
						Width (m)	2
						Avg. depth (m)	0.3
Context No.	**Type**	**Fill Of**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1600	Cut		1.2	0.42	Ditch		Mid-Late Iron Age
1601	Fill	1600	1.2	0.42	Ditch	19 x flints; 4 x sherds MIA pot.; 7 x sherds MIA/LIA pot.; 1 x animal bone frag.	Mid-Late Iron Age
1602	Layer			0.3	Topsoil		

Trench 17							
General description						**Orientation**	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology.						**Length (m)**	30
						Width (m)	2
						Avg. depth (m)	0.3
Context No.	**Type**	**Fill Of**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1700	Layer			0.3	Topsoil		

Trench 18							
General description						**Orientation**	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology.						**Length (m)**	30
						Width (m)	2
						Avg. depth (m)	0.3
Context No.	**Type**	**Fill Of**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1800	Layer			0.3	Topsoil		

Trench 19							
General description						**Orientation**	N-S
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology.						**Length (m)**	30
						Width (m)	2
						Avg. depth (m)	0.3
Context No.	**Type**	**Fill Of**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
1900	Layer			0.3	Topsoil		

Trench 20							
General description						**Orientation**	NW-SE
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology.						**Length (m)**	30
						Width (m)	2
						Avg. depth (m)	0.3
Context No.	**Type**	**Fill Of**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
2000	Layer			0.3	Topsoil		

Trench 21							
General description						**Orientation**	N-S
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology.						**Length (m)**	30
						Width (m)	2
						Avg. depth (m)	0.3
Context No.	**Type**	**Fill Of**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
2100	Layer			0.3	Topsoil		

Trench 22							
General description						**Orientation**	N-S
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology.						**Length (m)**	30
						Width (m)	2
						Avg. depth (m)	0.3
Context No.	**Type**	**Fill Of**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
2200	Layer			0.3	Topsoil		

Trench 23							
General description						**Orientation**	E-W
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology.						**Length (m)**	30
						Width (m)	2
						Avg. depth (m)	0.3
Context No.	**Type**	**Fill Of**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
2300	Layer			0.3	Topsoil		

Trench 24							
General description						**Orientation**	SW-NE
Consists of topsoil and colluvium overlying natural geology with one natural tree throw.						**Length (m)**	30
						Width (m)	2
						Avg. depth (m)	0.36
Context No.	**Type**	**Fill Of**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
2400	Cut		0.8	0.18	Tree throw		Natural feature
2401	Fill	2400	0.8	0.18	Tree throw	18 x flints	Natural feature
2402	Layer			0.3	Topsoil		

Trench 25							
General description						**Orientation**	NE-SW
Trench devoid of archaeology. Consists of topsoil overlying natural geology.						**Length (m)**	30
						Width (m)	2
						Avg. depth (m)	0.36
Context No.	**Type**	**Fill Of**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Description**	**Finds**	**Date**
2500	Layer			0.3	Topsoil		

A.2 Context Inventory

Context	Cut	Group	Phase	Trench	Category	Feature Type	Function	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Breadth	Depth	Profile
1	0		0	Ex.	layer		topsoil						
2	0		0	Ex.	layer		subsoil						
100	100		3	1	cut	ditch	field boundary				1.2	0.26	U-shaped
101	101		3	1	cut	ditch	field boundary				0.7	0.26	U-shaped
102	100		3	1	fill	ditch	silting	mid brownish red	sandy clay				
103	100		3	1	fill	ditch	silting	dark brownish red	sandy clay				
104	101		3	1	fill	ditch	silting	mid reddish brown	clay				
300	300		3	3	cut	ditch	field boundary				0.7	0.3	U-shaped
301	300		3	3	fill	ditch	silting	mid reddish brown	clay				
302	302		3	3	cut	ditch	field boundary				1.5	0.3	U-shaped
303	302		3	3	fill	ditch	silting	mid brownish red	sandy clay				
304	304		3	3	cut	ditch	field boundary				1.9	0.66	U-shaped
305	304		3	3	fill	ditch	silting	mid reddish brown	clay				
306	306		2	3	cut	pit	unknown				1.4	0.14	U-shaped
307	306		2	3	fill	pit	backfill	mid reddish brown	clay				
308	302		3	3	fill	ditch	silting	dark brownish red	sandy clay				
309	304		3	3	fill	ditch	silting	light yellowish brown	clay	chalk gravel			
900	900		3	9	cut	ditch	field boundary				0.8	0.2	U-shaped
901	900		3	9	fill	ditch	silting	mid greyish brown	silty clay				
1000	1000		3	10	cut	ditch	field boundary				1.1	0.2	U-shaped
1001	1000		3	10	fill	ditch	silting	mid greyish brown	silty clay				
1300	1300	Ditch 1300	2	13	cut	ditch	Enclosure				0.8	0.5	V-shaped
1301	1301	Ditch 1300	2	13	cut	ditch	Enclosure				1.2	0.6	V-shaped
1302	1300	Ditch 1300	2	13	fill	ditch	silting	dark greyish brown	silty clay	frequent charcoal			
1303	1301	Ditch 1300	2	13	fill	ditch	silting	dark greyish brown	silty clay	frequent charcoal			
1400	1400	Ditch 1400	2	14	cut	ditch	Enclosure				0.8	0.14	rounded V-shape
1401	1400	Ditch 1400	2	14	fill	ditch	silting	dark greyish brown	silty clay				
1600	1600	Ditch 1400	2	16	cut	ditch	Enclosure				0.8	0.14	rounded V-shape
1601	1600	Ditch 1400	2	16	fill	ditch	silting	dark greyish brown	silty clay				

Context	Cut	Group	Phase	Trench	Category	Feature Type	Function	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Breadth	Depth	Profile
2400	2400		1	24	cut	natural	tree throw				0.76	0.18	irregular
2401	2400		1	24	fill	natural	tree throw	greyish brown	clayey silt				
2600	2600	Ditch 1400	2	Ex.	cut	ditch	enclosure				1	0.3	rounded V-shape
2601	2600	Ditch 1400	2	Ex.	fill	ditch	silting	greyish brown	clayey silt				
2602	2602	Ditch 1400	2	Ex.	cut	ditch	enclosure				1	0.3	rounded V-shape
2603	2602	Ditch 1400	2	Ex.	fill	ditch	silting	greyish brown	clayey silt				
2604	2604	Ditch 1400	2	Ex.	cut	ditch	enclosure				1.2	0.4	rounded V-shape
2605	2604	Ditch 1400	2	Ex.	fill	ditch	silting	greyish brown	clayey silt				
2606	2606	Ditch 1400	2	Ex.	cut	ditch	enclosure				1.2	0.4	rounded V-shape
2607	2607	Ditch 1400	2	Ex.	cut	ditch	enclosure				1.2	0.4	rounded V-shape
2608	2608		3	Ex.	cut	ditch	field boundary				0.8	0.26	U-shaped
2609	2609		3	Ex.	cut	ditch	field boundary				0.8	0.26	U-shaped
2610	2610		1	Ex.	cut	natural	solution hollow				10		
2611	2611		2	Ex.	cut	pit	unknown				0.45	0.1	U-shaped
2612	2612		2	Ex.	cut	pit	unknown				0.56	0.04	U-shaped
2613	2613		2	Ex.	cut	pit	unknown				0.84	0.1	U-shaped
2614	2614	W/hole	2	Ex.	cut	W/hole	W/hole				9		
2615	2613		2	Ex.	fill	pit	backfill	dark grey	clay				
2616	2606	Ditch 1400	2	Ex.	fill	ditch	silting	greyish brown	clayey silt				
2617	2614	W/hole	2	Ex.	fill	W/hole	backfill	light brownish yellow	clay	chalk fragments			
2618	2614	W/hole	2	Ex.	fill	W/hole	backfill	reddish brown	silty clay	frequent flint gravel			
2619	2614	W/hole	2	Ex.	fill	W/hole	backfill	mid reddish brown	silty clay				
2620	2607	Ditch 1400	2	Ex.	fill	ditch	silting	greyish brown	clayey silt				
2621	2608		3	Ex.	fill	ditch	silting	mid reddish brown	silty clay				
2622	2609		3	Ex.	fill	ditch	silting	mid reddish brown	silty clay				
2623	2611		2	Ex.	fill	pit	backfill	mid reddish brown	clay	frequent charcaol			
2624	2612		2	Ex.	fill	pit	backfill	mid reddish brown	clay	limestone cobbles			
2625	2610		1	Ex.	fill	natural	solution hollow	light yellowish brown	clayey silt				
2626	2626		2	Ex.	cut	pit	unknown						U-shaped
2627	2626		2	Ex.	fill	pit	backfill	mid reddish brown	clay				
2628	2628		3	Ex.	cut	ditch	field boundary				0.8	0.26	U-shaped

Context	Cut	Group	Phase	Trench	Category	Feature Type	Function	Colour	Fine component	Coarse component	Breadth	Depth	Profile
2629	2628		3	Ex.	fill	ditch	silting	mid reddish brown	silty clay				
2630	2630	W/hole	2	Ex.	cut	W/hole	W/hole				9		
2631	2630	W/hole	2	Ex.	fill	W/hole	backfill	light brownish yellow	clay	chalk fragments			
2632	2630	W/hole	2	Ex.	fill	W/hole	backfill	reddish brown	silty clay	frequent flint gravel			
2633	2630	W/hole	2	Ex.	fill	W/hole	backfill	mid reddish brown	silty clay				

Table 2: Context inventory

APPENDIX B FINDS REPORTS

B.1 Metalwork

By Denis Sami

Introduction

B.1.1 The assemblage consists of 13 fragments of metalwork relating to a total of 13 artefacts recovered from the subsoil and archaeological features (Table 4). The assemblage comprises copper alloy (CuA), iron (Fe) and lead (Pb) artefacts and it is used here to develop further understanding of the character of the different activities that occurred on the site through its chronological phases (Table 3).

B.1.2 The bulk of the assemblage dates to the postmedieval and modern periods with only a Roman brooch dating to an earlier chronological phase.

B.1.3 The metalwork includes dressing accessories (button), practical multifunctional artefact (nail), horse equipment (buckle) and object of unidentified use.

B.1.4 Three items remain unidentifiable to type.

Metal	No. Artefact
CuA	5
Fe	7
Pb	1
Total	13

Table 3: Quantity of artefacts by metal

B.1.5 The assemblage overall is in poor condition; most of the artefacts are fragmented and incomplete. The ironwork has heavy encrustation and are oxidised due to the adverse conditions of the soil.

B.1.6 A total of two artefacts were recovered from archaeological features, providing information on the character of the site and its phases.

B.1.7 The remaining artefacts were recovered from topsoil through metal-detecting.

Methodology

B.1.8 The metalwork was examined in accordance with the Oxford Archaeology East (OAE) metalwork finds standard based on the guidance of the Historical Metallurgy Society (HMS, Datasheets 104 and 108), the Archaeometallurgy Guidelines for Best Practice (Historic England 2015) and the Guidelines for the Storage and Display of Archaeological Metalwork (English Heritage/Historic England 2013).

B.1.9 The catalogue of medieval household by Egan (2010) while the Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS) database was consulted for finds not reported in Egan's work.

B.1.10 The material was classified according to Crummy's 1983 categories. The items were catalogued and the details are presented at the end of this section in one table (Table 2).

B.1.11 Finds both from excavation and samples were quantified using an Access database. A single Excel spreadsheet was used to enter details and measurements of each artefact; this database was interrogated to compile statistics. All metal finds were counted, weighed when relevant and classified on a context by context basis. The catalogue is organised by context number.

B.1.12 The metalwork and archive (Excel/Access databases) are curated by OAE until formal deposition.

The assemblage

Copper-alloy

B.1.13 A total of 5 copper-alloy artefacts were recovered during the project. Despite being incomplete and oxidised it was possible to identify a Roman item and 4 modern artefacts.

B.1.14 Two objects of personal adornment were identified. SF 1 is a Colchester derivative brooch, this was a popular item widely documented in Roman Britain between *c*.43 and *c*.120 AD. SF 7 is a unmarked and undecorated circular button of modern date.

B.1.15 A post-medieval or modern large rectangular cast buckle is the only item in the assemblage that can be connected with horse equipment.

B.1.16 Of the two unidentified copper-alloy artefacts, SF 5 is the most interesting. This is a cast bowl-shaped object with a diameter of 90 mm. The external surface is highly polished while the internal surface is untreated. The surface treatment suggests the item was not a vessel. Given its symmetry and external polishing it cannot be excluded this fragment was part of a base, perhaps from a candleholder. SF 6 is a shapeless fragment of a copper-alloy sheeting.

Iron

B.1.17 The totality of the ironwork is formed by fragments of nails (7) which chronology and typology cannot be determined.

Lead

B.1.18 A single unidentified very small fragment of lead was recovered from topsoil.

SF	Context	Cut	Feature	Material	Artefact	No. Artefact	Condition	Description	Length (mm)	Width (mm)	Thickness (mm)	Diam. (mm)	Spot date
1	2625	2610	natural	CuA	brooch	1	incomplete	A Colchester double lug derivative brooch missing the spring, pin and catch plate. The wings are open and each wing is externally decorated with a two ridges. The head of the bow has a prominent	32	20	11.4	0	RM

SF	Context	Cut	Feature	Material	Artefact	No. Artefact	Condition	Description	Length (mm)	Width (mm)	Thickness (mm)	Diam. (mm)	Spot date
								ridge which tapers down to the truncated bow foot					
2	99999		topsoil	CuA	buckle	1	complete	A cast square framed buckle with triangular cross-section. The pin bar is circular in cross section and stepped from the frame	43.8	51.2	4.8	0	MOD
3	99999		topsoil	Fe	nail	2	incomplete	Two fragments of tapering and sub-square in cross-section stems. One stem is bent to a L shape	0	0	0	0	ND
4	99999		topsoil	Pb	unidentified	1	incomplete	Part of a larger possibly slightly convex artefact. A small circular knop is located at the centre of the convex side of the item	10.6	12	3.3	0	ND
5	99999		topsoil	CuA	unidentified	1	incomplete	A fragment from a cast copper-alloy artefact in the shape of a shallow bowl with a straight rim. The item is undecorated with a fine polished external surface while the internal surface is a bit rough	26	33	1.8	0	MOD
6	99999		topsoil	CuA	unidentified	1	incomplete	A shapeless fragment of a metal sheet.	13	6.4	0.3	0	ND
7	99999		topsoil	CuA	button	1	complete	A complete undecorated, flat and circular button with a deformed circular loop.	0	0	7	18	MOD
9	2633	2630	W/hole	Fe	nail	5	incomplete	Five fragments of sub-square in cross-section stems	0	0	0	0	ND

Table 4: Catalogue of metalwork

Discussion

B.1.19 This small assemblage offers very little opportunity to elaborate on the character or date of activity on the site. Metalwork is concentrated in topsoil denoting a possible higher activity during the post-medieval and modern periods.

B.2 Flint

By Anthony Haskins

Introduction

B.2.1 During the evaluation and following excavation, an assemblage of 328 struck and burnt flints were recovered from various contexts across the site (Table 6). This report outlines the results of the typological assessment and the chronological character of the assemblage. The flints were recorded following the terminology defined by Barton (1992).

Quantification

B.2.2 The assemblage of struck flints is composed of 12 blades, 213 flakes, 21 pieces of angular shatter, 24 cores, four core maintenance flakes and blades and 24 tools and retouched pieces (Table 5).

B.2.3 A small quantity of burnt flint (44 pieces, 0.839kg) was also recovered. The natural unstruck burnt pieces were all heavily burnt but will not be considered below. The only notable piece within the burnt assemblage was a heavily burnt blade core from context 2619 (Period 2 watering hole **2614**=**2630**).

Type	Sub-type	Total
Blade	width >10mm <20mm	9
	width >5mm <10mm	3
Flake	>50mm	7
	>25mm <50mm	129
	>10mm <25mm	69
	<10mm	8
Angular Shatter		21
Core	Single Platform Flake	17
	Single Platform Blade	1
	Single platform bade and flake	1
	Platform at Right angles Flake	1
	Platform at Right Angles Blade and flake	1
	Keeled	1
	Amorphous	4
Rejuvenation/Maintenance	Flake	3
	Blade	1
Tools	Awl/Piercer	1
	Serrate	1
	Scraper	5
Miscellaneous Retouch	Blade	1
	Flake	15
	Shatter	1
Burnt		43
Total		**343**

Table 5: Flint quantification

Characterisation of material

Raw material

B.2.4 The assemblage is struck from various locally available good quality semi-translucent yellowish-brown to reddish-brown flints, with occasional to frequent inclusions. Several of the pieces are of a locally available opaque mottled grey coarse-grained material. A small proportion of the assemblage is recorticated to a pale cream or light blue-grey colour and it is not possible to determine the original material. The majority of the cortex, where present, is a thick chalky material with some surface abrasion which would suggest it was recovered from nearby secondary deposits, several pieces struck from pebble flint were also recovered.

Debitage

B.2.5 Much of the assemblage was composed of flakes recovered from Iron Age contexts. The largest concentrations were recovered from fills 2633 and 2619 (65 and 44 pieces respectively) of Period 2 watering hole **2614**=**2630**. The debitage, which is composed of a mix of primary, secondary and tertiary flakes, is in a generally good condition with little or no evidence of recortification and limited edge damage. This would suggest that they are from a primary deposition event. This suggestion is further supported by

the refitting flakes recovered from fill 2633 of the watering hole and fill 1601 of Ditch 1400. The evidence from the strike points and bulbs of percussion suggests that much of the material was struck using a hard hammer.

B.2.6 The flake based debitage within the assemblage is characteristic of a later prehistoric assemblage dominated by short squat flakes, often with hinge terminations and little to no platform preparation or structured working (Young and Humphrey 1999 and Butler 2005).

B.2.7 The small number of blades (12) recovered are most likely to either be due to accidental production or in the case of the recorticated material residual flints of Late Mesolithic or Early Neolithic date.

Cores and core technology

B.2.8 A total of 24 cores were recovered during the works. The largest concentration of cores (14) was recovered from fill 2619 of the Period 2 watering hole. Most of these are single platform flake cores with little indication of platform preparation or structured working, often using thermally fractured surfaces as the working platform (App. Fig. B.2.1, **F1** and **F2**). These cores are characteristic of later prehistoric flint working (Young and Humphrey 1999). A high proportion of the assemblage has evidence of incipient cones, often far behind the strike platform, which could indicate a less skilled knapper than would be expected from an earlier prehistoric assemblage.

B.2.9 A burnt single platform blade core was also recovered from 2619 and is likely to be residual and of Late Mesolithic date.

B.2.10 A small quantity of less well preserved and recorticated core rejuvenation/maintenance pieces (4) were also recovered. The general appearance of these pieces such as the partially crested blade from fill 2633 of the watering hole suggests that there is a residual element of earlier prehistoric material present within the assemblage.

Refits

B.2.11 Several refitting groups were recovered during the works. Tree throw **2400**, fill 2401 produced a small recorticated assemblage of narrow flakes that refitted to a core. The material although struck from poor quality flint has indications of platform preparation and structured working and is therefore most likely to be of Early Neolithic date.

B.2.12 Several refitting groups were also recovered from fills of Period 2 Ditch 1400 and watering hole (1601 and 2633 respectively). These flints were in a good to very good condition with no indication of recortication, unlike the residual early prehistoric material. These refits also have limited edge damage. The condition of the flints would suggest that they date to the infilling of the features in the Iron Age.

Retouched pieces

B.2.13 A small quantity of pieces recovered from the Period 2 watering hole have been retouched either as a recognised tool form (7 pieces) or as expedient tools with minimal edge modification (17). Four scrapers were recovered; two residual Neolithic end/horseshoe scrapers (contexts 1401 and 2633; Butler 2005, 127); two end scrapers on hard hammer struck secondary flakes (contexts 1401 and 2619 (App. B.2.1, **F3**)).

Other recognisable tool forms included a flake with micro-denticulations and an awl or piercer (contexts 2603 and 2633 respectively). These both seem to be in similar good condition to the later prehistoric material suggesting they are of the same event rather than residual.

B.2.14 The edge modified pieces vary in character but tend to consist of abrupt or semi abrupt retouch forming either a short straight edge or a small notch into the body of the flint. Many of these pieces were recovered from fills 2619 and 2633 of the Period 2 watering hole (App. Fig. B.2.1, **F4** and **F5**) which suggests they are of later prehistoric date. This type of expedient tool has previously been suggested as indicative of Iron Age flint working (Butler 2005, Young and Humphreys, 1999 for example).

Discussion and conclusions

B.2.15 Later Prehistoric flint working has increasingly been recognised within the archaeological record of the British Bronze and Iron Age (McLaren 2008). With the general characteristics and formal tool types now broadly recognised and defined (Martingell 1988, 73; Young and Humphrey 1999, 232; Butler 2005, 179 – 192; McLaren 2008, 152). Assemblages of Later Bronze Age date are widely recognised but there is still some debate about the existence of Iron Age flint work (Butler 2005, 189). Young and Humphrey (1999) have notably argued that flint working continued into the Iron Age contrary to earlier theories, such as Saville (1981).

B.2.16 Much of the assemblage recovered from Acton meets the criteria for Iron Age flint working as defined by Young and Humphrey (1999). However, as with many potential Iron Age flint working assemblages, there is an issue of residuality of the material. The recovered assemblage has clearly residual material of clearly Late Mesolithic or Early Neolithic date. However, the lack of Late Mesolithic and/or Early Neolithic activity on the site and the direct association of the struck flint with Late Iron Age pottery would suggest that at least a proportion of the assemblage was of Late Iron Age date. This is further supported by the presence of refitting material within the assemblage from Iron Age features, the good condition of the struck flint and the lack of damage that would be indicative of movement prior to disposal.

B.2.17 It is argued that stone tools within the Iron Age are entirely functional and utilitarian and from use within a domestic setting (Young and Humphrey 1999, 152). The use of expedient tools and few formal tool types combined with the poor quality of the knapping would support this argument for the assemblage at Tamage Road.

B.2.18 In conclusion most of the assemblage is of probable Late Iron Age, but certainly Iron Age, date and as such of archaeological significance.

Illustration catalogue

F1. 2619, fill of watering hole 2614=2630, Period 2. Iron Age core tool

F2. 2619, fill of watering hole 2614=2630, Period 2. Iron Age core tool

F3. 2619, fill of watering hole 2614=2630, Period 2. Iron Age semi-abrupt retouched flake: end scraper

F4. 2619, fill of watering hole 2614=2630, Period 2. Iron Age semi-abrupt retouched flake: expedient tool?

F5. 2619, fill of watering hole 2614=2630, Period 2. Iron Age abrupt retouched notch on flake: unclear tool form

Context	Cut	Group	Period	Blade						Flake									Chunk			Core			Rejuvenation						Awl/Piercer	Micro-denticule	Denticule	Scraper			Retouched			Burnt	Total
				Blade >10			Bladelet >5			Broad			Flake			Narrow									CoreTrimmingFlake			CoreTrimming Blade													
				Primary	Secondary	Tertiary	Primary	Secondary	Tertiary	Primary	Secondary	Tertiary	Primary	Secondary	Tertiary	Primary	Secondary	Tertiary	Primary	Secondary	Tertiary	Core	Amorphous	Keeled	Primary	Secondary	Tertiary	Primary	Secondary	Tertiary				End	Side&End	other	Blade	Flake	Shatter		
2601	2600	Ditch 1400	2								1			4		1		1																			1	1	1	**10**
2616	2606	Ditch 1400	2					1					1	2				1																			1			**5**
2618	2614	Ditch 1400	2			1								1																										**2**
2401	2400	-	1		1									2		1	2	4	1	2	1	2				1											1			**18**
2601	2600	Ditch 1400	2																	1																		1	**2**
2617	2614	W/hole	2											5																										**5**
1601	1600	Ditch 1400	2								2			5	4		3	5																						**19**
2620	26	Ditch	2		1									2			3			1			1			1														**9**

Context	Cut	Group	Period	Blade						Flake									Chunk			Core			Rejuvenation						AwlPiercer	Micro-denticule	Denticule	Scraper			Retouched			Burnt	Total
				Blade >10			Bladelet >5			Broad			Flake			Narrow									CoreTrimmingFlake			CoreTrimming Blade													
				Primary	Secondary	Tertiary	Primary	Secondary	Tertiary	Primary	Secondary	Tertiary	Primary	Secondary	Tertiary	Primary	Secondary	Tertiary	Primary	Secondary	Tertiary	Core	Amorphous	Keeled	Primary	Secondary	Tertiary	Primary	Secondary	Tertiary				End	Side&End	other	Blade	Flake	Shatter		
	07	1400																																						
Sub-soil Tr 2	-	-	-			1							1	3			1																		1						**7**
2623	2611	-	2			1											1	1				1																		**4**
2627	2626	-	2											1								1																2	**4**
2603	2602	Ditch 1400	2											3	1							3									1		1						**9**
2631	2630	W/hole	2											2										1														14	**17**
1302	1300	Ditch 1300	2										1	2	1		3	2		1		1	1													1			5	**18**
2615	26	-	2																																	1			**1**

Context	Cut	Group	Period	Blade						Flake									Chunk			Core			Rejuvenation						Awl/Piercer	Micro-denticule	Denticule	Scraper			Retouched			Burnt	Total
				Blade >10			Bladelet >5			Broad			Flake			Narrow									CoreTrimmingFlake			CoreTrimming Blade													
				Primary	Secondary	Tertiary	Primary	Secondary	Tertiary	Primary	Secondary	Tertiary	Primary	Secondary	Tertiary	Primary	Secondary	Tertiary	Primary	Secondary	Tertiary	Core	Amorphous	Keeled	Primary	Secondary	Tertiary	Primary	Secondary	Tertiary				End	Side&End	other	Blade	Flake	Shatter		
	13																																							
Sub-soil Tr 1	-	-	-											1																											1
1401	1400	Ditch 1400	2											2																									7	9
103	1000	-	3																																		1			1
2633	2630	W/hole	2		2	1		2			1		4	26	11		9	14		2		1				1			1			1				5		1	83
2632	2630	W/hole	2										1	4	4		1	2		2																		18	32
2619	2614	W/hole	2		1						1		3	23	4		5	8		8	2	11	2											1			6		2	77
1401	1400	Ditch 1400	2								1	1	1	2	2			1															1							9

Context	Cut	Group	Period	Blade						Flake									Chunk			Core			Rejuvenation						Awl/Piercer	Micro-denticule	Denticule	Scraper			Retouched			Burnt	Total
				Blade >10			Bladelet >5			Broad			Flake			Narrow									CoreTrimmingFlake			CoreTrimming Blade													
				Primary	Secondary	Tertiary	Primary	Secondary	Tertiary	Primary	Secondary	Tertiary	Primary	Secondary	Tertiary	Primary	Secondary	Tertiary	Primary	Secondary	Tertiary	Core	Amorphous	Keeled	Primary	Secondary	Tertiary	Primary	Secondary	Tertiary				End	Side&End	other	Blade	Flake	Shatter		
totals				0	5	4	0	3	0	0	6	1	12	90	27	2	28	39	1	17	3	20	4	1	0	1	2	0	1	0	1	1	0	3	1	1	1	15	1	51	

Table 6: Flint catalogue

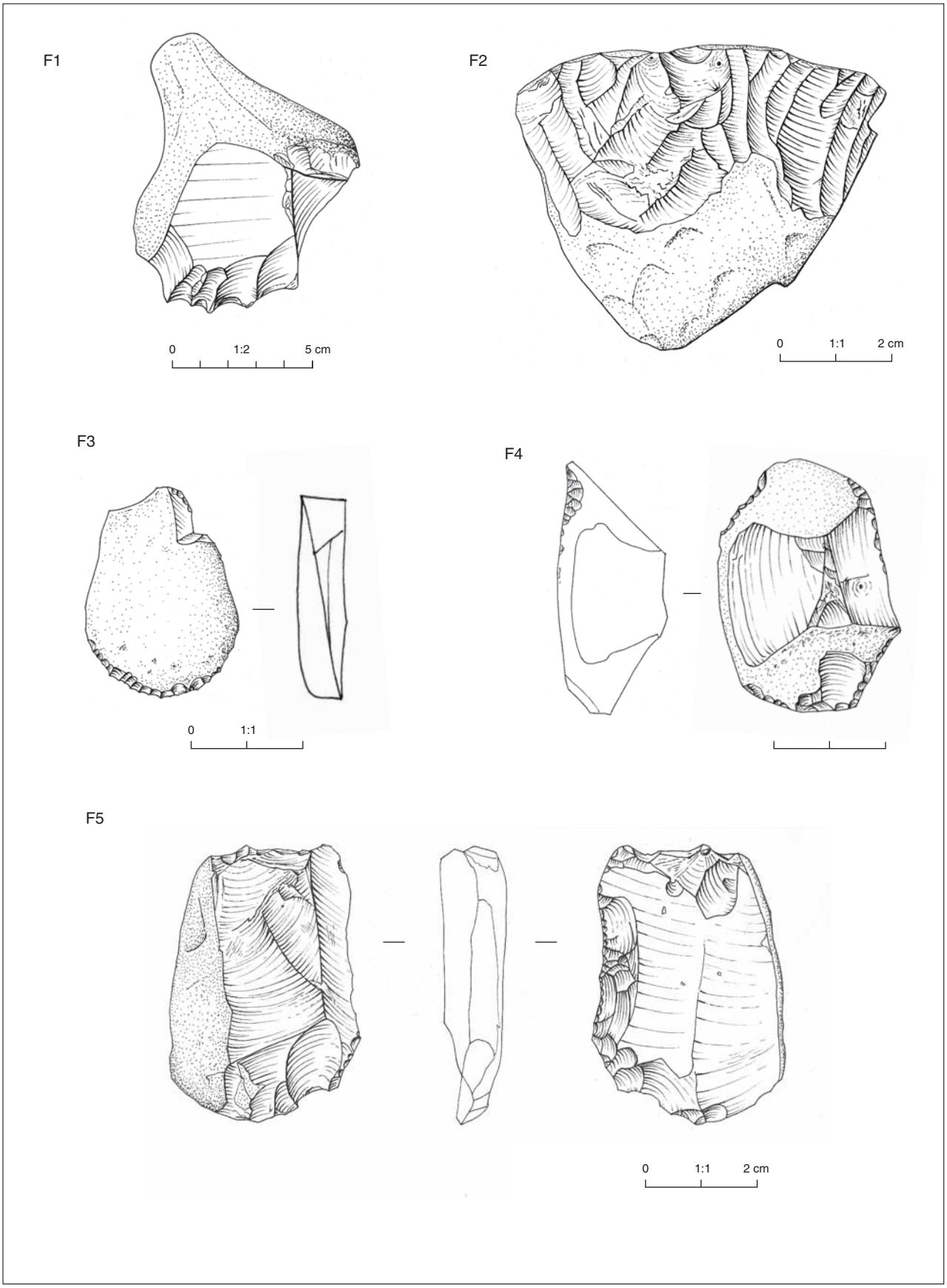


Figure B.2.1 Middle to Late Iron Age worked flint

B.3 Iron Age Pottery

By Carlotta Marchetto

Introduction

B.3.1 The combined evaluation and excavation yielded a total of 402 sherds (3601g) of Iron Age pottery, with a mean sherd (MSW) weight of 8.9g. The pottery was recovered from a total of 18 contexts relating to 14 cut features/labelled interventions (Table 7). The pottery ranged in date from the Early Iron Age through to the Early Roman period (Table 8), with the majority being of Middle/Late Iron Age (293 sherds, 2521g, *c*.350BC-AD50) and Late Iron Age/Early Roman (80 sherds, 913g, *c*.50BC-AD50) date and a small amount of Early Iron Age origin (29 sherds, 167g, *c*.600-350BC).

Context	Cut	Trench	Feature	Group name	No sherds	Wt (g)	Date	Period
103	100	1	ditch		1	13	MIA	3
305	304	3	ditch		4	22	MIA	3
1302	1300	13	ditch	Ditch 1300	25	140	EIA	2
1303	1301	13	ditch	Ditch 1300	3	16	EIA	2
1303	1301	13	ditch	Ditch 1300	2	11	MIA	2
1401	1400	14	ditch	Ditch 1400	18	91	MIA	2
1601	1600	16	ditch	Ditch 1400	4	62	MIA	2
1601	1600	16	ditch	Ditch 1400	1	7	MIA/LIA	2
2601	2600		ditch	Ditch 1400	1	11	EIA	2
2601	2600		ditch	Ditch 1400	46	575	MIA	2
2603	2602		ditch	Ditch 1400	6	63	MIA	2
2615	2613		pit		7	53	LIA/ER	2
2615	2613		pit		17	145	MIA	2
2615	2613		pit		5	34	MIA/LIA	2
2616	2606		ditch	Ditch 1400	1	2	MIA	2
2617	2614		W/hole	W/hole	5	28	LIA/ER	2
2617	2614		W/hole	W/hole	4	58	MIA	2
2617	2614		W/hole	W/hole	3	24	MIA/LIA	2
2618	2614		W/hole	W/hole	22	140	MIA	2
2619	2614		W/hole	W/hole	16	138	MIA	2
2619	2614		W/hole	W/hole	2	16	MIA/LIA	2
2620	2607		ditch	Ditch 1400	1	7	MIA	2
2627	2626		pit		9	52	LIA/ER	2
2627	2626		pit		7	48	MIA	2
2631	2630		W/hole	W/hole	2	27	LIA/ER	2
2631	2630		W/hole	W/hole	19	170	MIA	2
2631	2630		W/hole	W/hole	2	19	MIA/LIA	2
2632	2630		W/hole	W/hole	9	251	LIA/ER	2
2632	2630		W/hole	W/hole	40	291	MIA	2
2632	2630		W/hole	W/hole	3	22	MIA/LIA	2
2633	2630		W/hole	W/hole	48	502	LIA/ER	2
2633	2630		W/hole	W/hole	45	404	MIA	2
2633	2630		W/hole	W/hole	24	159	MIA/LIA	2
Total					*402*	*3601*		

Table 7: Pottery quantification by context

Ceramic period	No. sherds	Wt. (g)	% of assemblage (by wt.)
Early Iron Age	29	167	4.6
Middle Iron Age/Late Iron Age	293	2521	70
Late Iron Age/Early Roman	80	913	25.4
TOTAL	*402*	*3601*	*100*

Table 8: Quantification of pottery by ceramic period

B.3.2 The pottery is in a moderate/stable condition, and the assemblage contains a range of partial vessel profiles. Small sherds (<4cm in size) dominate, but most are relatively 'fresh' and unabraded. Dating is therefore largely based on the character of the fabrics and their comparison with material from other published assemblages from the region.

B.3.3 This report provides a fully quantified description of the material by period, and a discussion of its date and affinity.

Methodology

B.3.4 All the pottery has been fully recorded following the recommendations laid out by the Prehistoric Ceramic Research Group (2011). After a full inspection of the assemblage, fabric groups were devised on the basis of dominant inclusion types, their density and modal size. Sherds from all contexts were counted, weighed (to the nearest whole gram) and assigned to a fabric group. Sherd type was recorded, along with technology (wheel-made or handmade), evidence for surface treatment, decoration, and the presence of soot and/or residue. Rim and base forms were described using a codified system recorded in the catalogue and were assigned vessel numbers.

B.3.5 Where possible, rim and base diameters were measured, and surviving percentages noted. In cases where a sherd or groups of refitting sherds retained portions of the rim and shoulder, the vessel was also categorised by form. The Middle Iron Age-type forms were codified using the series developed by JD Hill (Hill and Horne 2003, 174; Hill and Braddock 2006, 155-156). The Late Iron Age/Early Roman vessels were classified using Isobel Thompson's (1982) catalogue, and her alphanumeric codes, prefixed with TH-.

B.3.6 All pottery was subject to sherd size analysis. Sherds less than 4cm in diameter was classified as 'small' (328 sherds; 82%); sherds measuring 4-8cm were classified as 'medium' (70 sherds; 17%), and sherds over 8cm in diameter will be classified as 'large' (4 sherds; 1%). The quantified data is presented on an Excel data sheet held with the project archive.

Fabrics Series

Sand and Flint fabrics

QF1: Moderate to common sand and sparse to common fine to coarse flint (mainly <1-4mm in size).

QF2: Moderate to common sand and rare to sparse very fine to fine flint (<1-1mm in size).

Sandy fabrics

Q1: Moderate to common quartz sand, sherds may contain rare angular flint or rare linear voids from burnt out organic matter.

Sand and Grog fabrics

QG1: Moderate to common sand and moderate to common fine to medium grog.

QG2: Moderate to common sand and fine grog.

Early Iron Age pottery (c.600-350BC)

B.3.7 A total of 29 sherds (167g) of Early Iron Age pottery were recovered from the evaluation and excavation (Table 9). The pottery derives from ditches **1300** (25 sherds, 140g) and **1301** (three sherds, 16g) in Trench 13, and ditch **2600** (one sherd, 11g) from the excavation. All these ditches belong to Period 2, and the sherd from ditch **2600** can be considered residual.

Assemblage characteristics

B.3.8 In the absence of diagnostic sherds (rim, decorated fabrics etc.), the pottery has been identified as Early Iron Age on the basis of the fabrics. Compared with the Middle Iron Age sherds, that also include flint tempered fabrics, the Early Iron Age assemblage presents a greater attention to surface finish, with sherds tending to be smoother with well sorted inclusions.

Key groups

B.3.9 Ditch **1300** can be considered a key group and yielded the majority of the Early Iron Age pottery. The ditch could be an earlier feature, with the presence of two intrusive later sherds.

Middle to Late Iron Age pottery (c.350BC-AD50)

B.3.10 The assemblage comprises 293 sherds of pottery (2521g) with a MSW of 8.6g. The pottery derives from 17 contexts relating to 13 features/labelled interventions. These comprise nine ditches, two pits and the watering hole. Six interventions are associated with ditch group 1400 and contain 77 sherds (807g). Except for five sherds (35g) from the evaluation Phase 3, all the sherds derive from Phase 2 features (ditches, pits and watering hole).

Assemblage characteristics

B.3.11 The assemblage contains sherds in a range of fabrics, all broadly typical of pottery groups dating to the Middle to Late Iron Age in Suffolk (Brudenell 2017, 156). They include a mix of sandy wares, with inclusions of organic matter, occasionally flint and grog (Table 9). In total three basic fabric groups have been distinguished. Sherds with just sand account for 90% of the material by weight. The other sandy wares have inclusions of flint (1%), or grog (9%).

Fabric Type	Fabric Group	No./Wt. (g) sherds	% fabric by Wt.	No./Wt. (g) burnished	% fabric burnished	MNV	MNV burnished
QF1	Sand and Flint	4/29	1	-	-	-	-
Q1	Sand	258/2278	90	6/40	2	48	2
QG1	Sand and Grog	31/214	9	16/105	49	3	2
TOTAL		*293/2521*	*100*	*22/145*	*51*	*51*	*4*

Table 9: Quantification of Middle to Late Iron Age pottery by fabric. MNV= minimum number of vessels calculated as the total number of different rims and bases identified (23 rims, 11 bases and 17 partial vessel profile)

B.3.12 Based on the total number of different rims and bases identified, the Middle Iron Age assemblage is estimated to contain a minimum of 51 different vessels: 23 different rims, 11 different bases and 17 partial vessel profiles.

B.3.13 Most vessels have simple flat-topped, rounded or externally thickened rims. Everted and internally bevelled rims are also present. A total of 16 vessels are sufficiently intact to assign to form (31% of vessels). This includes 25 sherds (393g), representing 8% of the Middle/Late Iron Age assemblage by sherd count or 16% by weight (Table 10). The majority of vessels are neckless barrel-shaped jars/bowls or slightly globular pots with no distinct neck zone but a clearly defined rim (Hill Form K and L). Other types include small slack-shouldered or constricted necked vessel (Hill Form A and B). All vessels are in a sandy fabric.

B.3.14 Measurable vessel rims (13 in total) have a range of dimeters from a minimum of 7 cm to a maximum of 16 cm and belong to small to medium-sized pots. Vessel of this size are likely to have been everyday cooking and serving pots, although any of them retain traces of carbonised residue. In general, however, residues are very rare in the assemblage, with only 36 sherds with residue recorded (335g).

Form	Description	MNV	No./wt. (g) sherds	Rim diameter range (cm)
A	Slack shouldered jars with a short upright neck	4	9/185	12
B	Constricted necked	2	3/41	14
K	Globular bowls/squat jars with no neck	6	8/84	7-16
L	Globular bowls/squat jars with no distinct neck zone, but a clearly defined rim	4	5/83	8
TOTAL		*16*	*25/393*	*7-16*

Table 10: Quantification of Middle/Late Iron Age vessel forms

B.3.15 A total of 22 sherds (145g) are burnished or carefully smoothed, representing 7% of the assemblage by sherd count, 6% by weight or 8% by vessel count. These figures could possibly reflect an emphasis on serving vessels or a local preference for pots with polished surfaces (Brudenell 2017).

B.3.16 Decoration is present on 16 sherds (156g) relating to maximum of four vessels (Table 11). Applications include fingertip and nail treatments on the rim-top (on two of the 23 different rims), geometrical tool impressions and incised line. Scoring is the only other type of 'decoration', with three sherds (42g) displaying scoring characteristic of the East Midlands Scored Ware tradition (Elsdon 1992).

Decoration	Vessel zone	No./Wt. (g) sherds	No. vessels	Vessel forms, & rim-diameters (cm)
Fingertip and fingernail	Rim-top	1/19	1	Form K, 14cm
Deep fingernail	Shoulder	3/35	1	Form L, 8cm
Geometrical tool impressions	Body	5/34	-	-
One incised line	Body	2/7	-	-
Light geometrical decoration	Body	1/12	-	-
Cordon	Rim base	1/7	1	-
Light scoring	Shoulder	3/42	1	Form B, 14cm
TOTAL	-	*16/156*	*4*	-

Table 11: Quantification of Middle/Late Iron Age decoration

Key groups

B.3.17 The Middle/Late Iron Age ditch group 1400 yielded 77 sherds of pottery (807g) and constitute a key group containing seven of the 51 different vessels represented in the Middle/Late Iron Age assemblage. A larger group derived from the watering hole (180 sherds, 1441g). These constitute the other key groups and contain 35 of the 51 different vessels represented in the assemblage, with nine form assigned vessels. Pits yielded 29 sherds (227g) and display sherds with geometrical tool impressed decorations.

Late Iron Age to Early Roman pottery (c.50BC-AD50)

B.3.18 The assemblage comprises 80 sherds of pottery (913g) with a MSW of 11.4g. The pottery derives from six contexts relating to two pits and the watering hole. Watering hole cut **2630** yielded the majority of the pottery (59 sherds, 780g). In total, just nine sherds (52g) derived from pit **2626**. A further five sherds (28g) were recovered from watering hole cut **2614** and seven sherds (53g) from pit **2613**. All sherds derive from Phase 2 contexts.

Assemblage characteristics

B.3.19 The Late Iron Age/Early Roman assemblage is characterised by sherds in sand and sand and grog fabrics (Table 12). Sandy wares dominate (60 sherds, 696g), followed by those with grog inclusions (20 sherds, 217g). Sandy ware fabrics constitute around 76% of the pottery by weight. Grog-tempered fabrics constitute around 23% of the assemblage, with grog and sand and fine grog. The material comprises both handmade and wheel-made wares with the majority being wheel-finished wares.

Fabric Type	Fabric Group	No./Wt. (g) sherds	% fabric by Wt.	No./Wt. (g) burnished	% fabric burnished	MNV	MNV burnished
Q1	Sand	60/696	76.2	1/4	0.5	6	1
QG1	Sand and Grog	4/102	11.2	-		1	-
QG2	Sand and Grog	16/115	12.6	-	-	3	-
TOTAL		*80/913*	*100*	*1/4*	*0.5*	*10*	*1*

Table 12: Quantification of Late Iron Age/Early Roman pottery by fabric. MNV= minimum number of vessels calculated as the total number of different rims and bases identified (six rims, two bases and two partial vessel profile)

B.3.20 The majority of the assemblage is of wheel-made sherds. Fabric types overlap with those of the Middle Iron Age, though grog tempered wares are also present. The wheel-made sherds include a very large wide-mouthed jar with cordons (TH-B3-10) and a large plain everted rim jar (TH-C2-1), both in sand fabric. The assemblage contains a minimum of ten different vessels. Most vessels have upright rounded rims but beaded and everted with rounded lips rims are also present. The only vessel profiles with identified forms are the two jars.

B.3.21 Decoration is present on 32 sherds (463g) relating to maximum of three vessels (Table 13). Applications include cordon or groove on shoulders and chevron decorations. Decoration is mainly applied to the shoulder, with any rim treated.

Decoration	Vessel zone	No./Wt. (g) sherds	No. vessels	Vessel forms, & rim-diameters (cm)
Cordon	Shoulder/Body/Neck	21/341	2	TH-B3-10, 8cm
Groove	Shoulder/Body/Neck	3/31	1	-
Groove/Chavron decoration	Body	2/57	-	-
Incised line	Body	6/34	-	-
TOTAL	-	*32/463*	*3*	-

Table 13: Quantification of Late Iron Age/Early Roman decoration

Key groups

B.3.22 The majority of the Late Iron Age pottery derived from watering hole **2630** (59 sherds, 780g). This constitutes the key group and contains six of the ten vessels represented in the Late Iron Age/Early Roman assemblage, with two form assigned vessels.

Discussion

B.3.23 The excavation yielded a small assemblage of plain and undiagnostic sherds of Early Iron Age pottery. This assemblage derived from ditch **1300** and could be a presence indicator of an earlier occupation of the site. Other Late Bronze Age-Early Iron Age sites are in the region, like Chilton (Percival 1998) or Capel St Mary (Brudenell 2014).

B.3.24 Most of the site's prehistoric pottery can be given a general Middle/later Iron Age date, *c*.350BC-AD50, with the group finding parallels with pottery from Barnham, Burgh, Spong Hill and West Stow (Brudenell and Hogan 2014). The assemblage is typical for Suffolk, displaying a range of vessels most made in dense sandy fabrics or a combination of sand and grog. This hand-made Middle Iron Age potting tradition appears to have continued throughout the Late Iron Age in Suffolk, persisting alongside the introduction of wheel-made ceramics and grog tempered 'Belgic' pottery from *c*.50BC in some contexts. (Brudenell 2014, 186). The vessel forms constitute fragments of typical domestic repertoire and can be widely paralleled with published groups from West Stow (Martin 1989) and some of the handmade pottery

at Burgh (Martin 1988). The surface treatment of the pottery with burnishing and polishing, tended to be reserved for vessels made with fine sandy clays and sparse grog inclusions, particular sherds in fabric Q1 and QG1. This has a parallel in Morland Road, Ipswich (Brudenell and Hogan 2014).

B.3.25 The level of LIA/Early Roman artefactual evidence indicates a continuation of activity in the area from the Iron Age. The Late Iron Age-Early Roman assemblage comprise handmade wares of Middle Iron Age-type and grog tempered 'Belgic-related' ceramics, most of which are wheel-made. The assemblage can be compared with the pottery from Land East of Days Road, Capel St Mary (Anderson 2010).

B.3.26 Although a small number of Early to Middle Iron Age pottery sherds were recovered from the excavation, the peak in activity belongs to the Middle to Late Iron Age. The assemblage recovered from this excavation provided evidence for occupation from the Early/Middle Iron Age to the Early Roman period. The forms and fabrics recorded are typical of assemblages of this date in Suffolk, being dominated by sandy wares and most of the pottery is likely to have come from the local area. In terms of Roman activity, the pottery implies that activity did not continue beyond the mid/late 1st century AD. The relatively small quantity of early Roman pottery suggests that occupation was not as intensive as it had been during the Middle Iron Age.

B.3.27 Although the pottery assemblage is relatively small, the presence of multiperiod pottery could suggest a use of the settlement from the Early Iron Age to the Early Roman period.

Illustration catalogue

V.7: jar/bowl, form A, fabric Q1. Ditch 2600, context 2601, date MIA.

V.32: jar/bowl, form L, fabric Q1. Watering hole 2630, context 2631, date MIA.

V.39: class jars finer ware, form TH-B3-10, fabric Q1. Cordon on the shoulder. Watering hole 2630, context 2632, date LIA/ER.

V.61: class jars coarse wares, form TH-C2-1, fabric Q1. Watering hole 2630, context 2633, date LIA/ER.

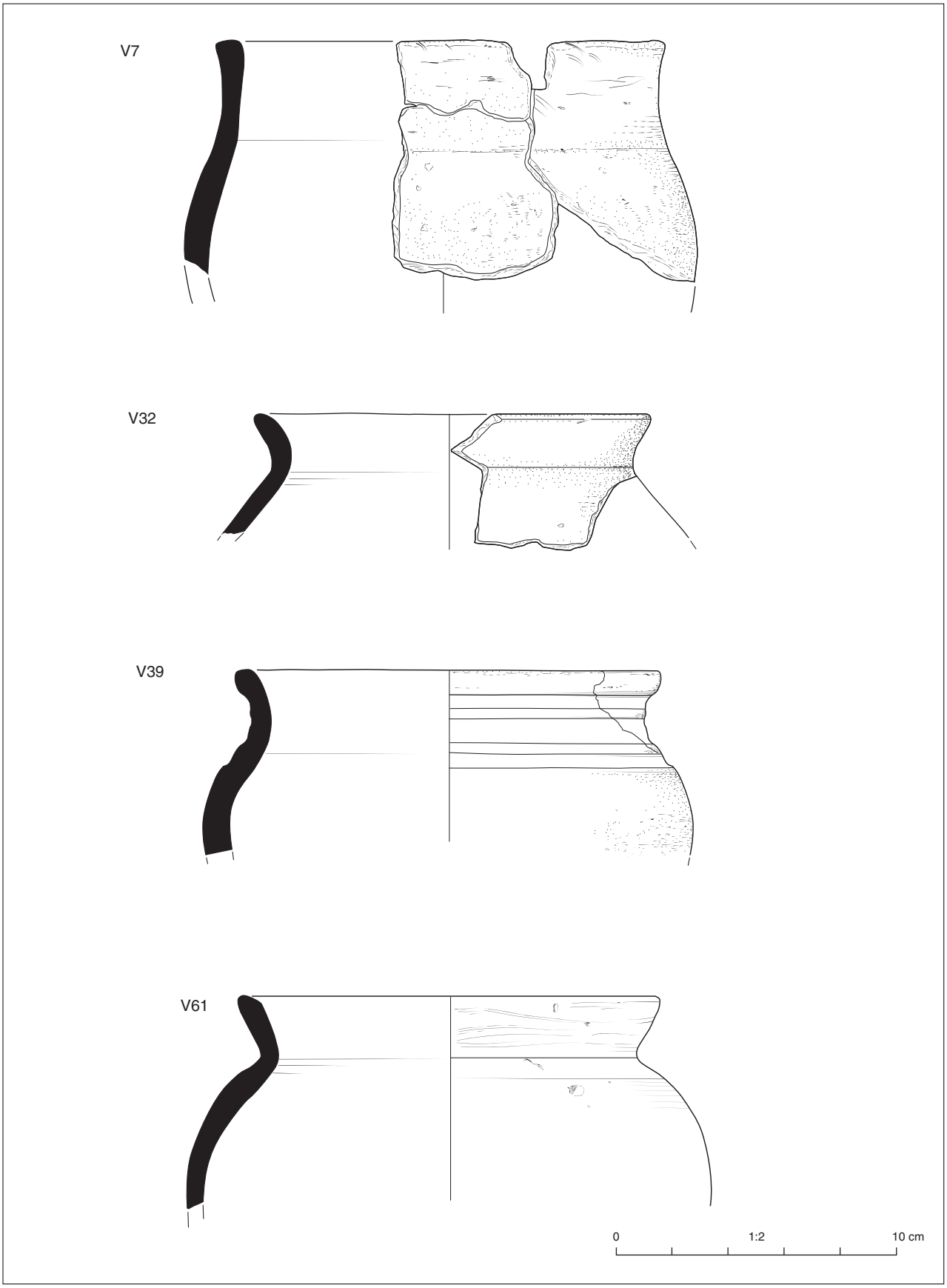


Fig. B.3.1 Middle to Late Iron Age pottery

B.4 Ceramic building material

By Simon Timberlake

Introduction

B.4.1 A small amount of brick and tile was recovered from this site, some of which was clearly medieval, and some of it less diagnostic and fragmentary, but some of it nevertheless medieval/ early post-medieval in date (Table 14).

Methodology

B.4.2 All the brick and tile was identified visually using an illuminated x10 magnifying lens. This was examined in detail both for its form and fabric type. A dropper bottle containing dilute hydrochloric acid was used to confirm the presence or absence of carbonate.

Catalogue and description of tile and brick

B.4.3 Some 453g of medieval/ early post-medieval brick (all being re-fitting fragments (x4) from the same weathered and fragmented piece) plus the corner of a weathered green glaze 'Flemish style' (14th-16th century AD) floor tile (239g) were recovered from the fill of Period 3 ditch cut **2609**. The floor tile was plain, with some traces of a green lead glaze surviving upon the worn and weathered surface, although there was no trace of any attached mortar. The thickness of the tile fragment (between 1 and 1 ¼ inches) was not untypical of this date.

B.4.4 Two different types of plain earthenware roof tile were also noted, including a single small piece of distorted flat tile or shallow pantile (86g) from the fill of Period 3 ditch cut **2628** and three pieces of a slightly differently manufactured flat roof tile (69g) from the fill of Period 3 ditch cut **2608**. None of this tile could be accurately dated, but it seems most likely that these are also medieval to early post-medieval in date.

Discussion

B.4.5 The association of the glazed floor tile with the brick, and from nearby features/contexts roof tile that has been manufactured from a broadly similar type of clay, is suggestive of contemporary tile and brick dating (very approximately) to the period of the 14th-16th century. Given the similarity (but with some differences) in the fabric types, there may have been a similar and local (Suffolk) source(s) for these, whilst the more highly fired and coarser brick resembles some of the products of rural brick production associated with local brickearth pits. Early examples of these lie to the east of here between Needham Market and Ipswich or to the south close to Marks Tey (NE Essex), whilst at Acton there are clays of the Lowestoft Till (Spencer 1966, 385-387).

B.4.6 The fragmentary nature of this small assemblage makes it very difficult to categorize. What we can say of the brick though is that the two surviving dimensions 2-2 ¼ inches by 4 ¼ - 4 ½ inches are not un-typical of the earlier medieval non-standard 'great bricks'

(an example of which has been dated to 1268 from Little Wenham Hall, Suffolk), or for that matter the brick sizes stipulated in the 1571 charter (i.e. 9 x 4 ½ x 2 ¼ inches (230x115x57mm)).

Cxt.	Cut	Nos. pieces	Dimension (mm)	Wt (g)	Fabric	Inclusions	Identity/ use	Notes
2621	**2608**	3	75x35x10 (thick + 30+40	69	RE4	sand	flat roof tile	all three weathered pieces composed of same tile fabric – but not re-fitting. Possibly medieval/early postmedieval Different to roof tile from 2629
2622 (1)	**2609**	4 (all refitting)	110x80x50 (60x65x55+ 60x60x55 + 50x45x55)	453	RE1	mostly grit	hand-made brick	two of the surviving dimensions (width (4 ½ inch) and thickness (2 ¼ inch)) suggest that this may conform to the 1571 charter – though this could be up to 200 yrs earlier than this. Weathered and broken.
2622 (2)	**2609**	1	95x65x30	239	RE2	burnt flint + pale clay	hand-made glazed floor tile	a weathered corner fragment of a Medieval plain green glaze tile – undecorated or stamped/ encaustic – the dimensions and glaze traces suggest 14th-16thC
2629	**2628**	1	80x50x12	86	RE3	rare	hand-made roof tile	small fragment: v slightly convex – maybe part of a pantile or else distorted flat tile. Medieval/ early postmed

Table 14: Inventory of tile and brick

Fabric types

RE1 = silty sandy brick red earthenware with small fired grit inclusions incl rare patinated flint gravel, strongly fired chalk (<3mm), strongly fired dark clay pellets (<3mm) and common firing voids. Possibly made from brickearth.

RE2 = a brick red slightly variegated and laminated tile fabric suggestive of hand-made pressed mould manufacture with occasional inclusions of red (burnt) and black rounded flit grit and pale marly clay pellets (<3mm). Reduce-fired on top beneath a now remnant (weathered away) lead glaze.

RE3 = a reddish orange fine silty fabric with minor fine mica content within clay, but with very few inclusions (only rare sand and chalk <1mm).

RE4 = a reddish-pink slightly coarser tile fabric with some fine sand and grit inclusions (<1mm) and sand-coated tile surfaces.

B.5 Fired clay

By Simon Timberlake

Introduction

B.5.1 A total of 123g of worked clay (loomweight?) and 32g of fired clay (daub) were recovered from the secondary and tertiary fills (2618=2632 and 2633) of Period 2 watering hole **2614**=**2630** (Table 15). The analysis of this very fragmentary assemblage would appear to confirm an Iron Age association.

Methodology

B.5.2 All of the fired clay was identified visually using an illuminated x10 magnifying lens. This was examined in detail for its form and fabric type. A dropper bottle containing dilute hydrochloric acid was used to confirm the presence or absence of carbonate.

Catalogue of fired clay

B.5.3 This small assemblage consists of some very weathered and broken-up pieces of an anomalous and relatively unfired daub (25 g) and some undiagnostic moulded daub (15g) which may be either loomweight or structural from fill 2632, a small amount of wall-surface daub (5g) that has been strongly fired upon one face from fill 2618, and a collection of non re-fitting pieces from a single (probably Iron Age) loomweight (123g) recovered from fill 2633. The latter seems to have been broken up when it was burnt, the majority of it having been lost. However, the round moulded corner and section with a diagonal warp thread perforation through it would suggest that this was probably part of a small rectangular- equilateral triangular Iron Age loomweight.

Discussion

B.5.4 Whilst it is difficult to be precise about the dating of the loomweight given its highly fragmented and incomplete survival, the few diagnostic elements support the suggestion that the fragments from fill 2633 come from a single equilateral triangular weight which *may* originally have been 0.5kg or less in weight. Moreover, this is much more likely to be Early-Middle Iron Age rather than Late Iron Age in date (see Evans 2003; Lambrick 2010; Poole 1995) and associated therefore with a warp-weighted rather than a two-bar loom (Wild 2003). An illustration of this particular type of loom and the method of stringing the weights can be seen within the accompanying reconstruction (App. Fig. B.5.1).

B.5.5 The single piece of wall surface daub which is burnt upon its exterior may be the best material evidence here for dwelling structures, although it is very difficult to deduce much from this one fragment. The intense firing of its surface, without any signs of vitrification, but with evidence of contact with water, could imply (at the time) this was part of an *in situ* structure.

Fig. B.5.1: Reconstruction of an Iron Age loom (Susan White)

Group	Cut	Cxt.	No. frags	dimension (mm)	Wt (g)	Fabric type	Period	Artefact	Comments
Watering-hole	**2614** =**2630**	2618	1	30x22x14	5	B	IA?	daub wall surface?	strongly fired (calcined/ cracked) just upon exterior face, but not vitrified. From flames to wall – but not incinerated
		2632 (1)	2	25x15x17 + 25x20x10	15	A	IA?	hard daub	fired
		2632 (2)	2	25	12	B		daub mix	v irregular and poorly fired/ unfired lumps NB. the largest piece within this bag is actually weathered limestone, so has not been included
		2633	14	largest 40x40x30 + 35x30x20 +30-40	123	C	IA	loomweight?	highly fragmentary: includes 2 bits with round moulded corners and one with half warp thread perforation (c. 12-13mm diam), but all of rest are undiagnostic, but probably from same object. Some of it shows signs of re-burning

Table 15: Inventory of fired clay

Fabric types

A: CG1 pinkish-white mottled with mod common 1-2mm small chalk particles plus occasional oxidised red clay pellets within a slightly heterogenous hard fabric variegated and coarsely conglomeratic with much sub-round chalk, minor flint and spots of brick red iron-rich clay throughout.

B: lumpy irregular yellow-brown hard clay fabric, poorly fired (pink in some places). Not particularly diagnostic.

C: CG2 similar to A but much more conglomeratic fabric with larger pieces of chalk, lumpy texture with some voids, and a slightly variegated silty clay mix which shows up the poorly mixed clay as a result of the burning and oxidation.

APPENDIX C ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

C.1 Faunal remains

By Zoë Uí Choileáin

Introduction and methodology

C.1.1 Excavations at the site uncovered a total of 37 recordable fragments of animal bone (Tables 17-19). Of these 26 fragments were identifiable to species; cattle, horse, sheep/goat, pig and red deer. A single unidentifiable bird bone was also recorded. The remaining material was categorised as large or medium mammal and is recorded in Table 17.

C.1.2 This assemblage dates almost entirely to the Late Iron Age (100BC - AD43). Only hand collected material has been recorded. The bulk of the assemblage is primarily from ditches and watering hole.

C.1.3 The method used to quantify this assemblage was a modified version of that devised by Albarella and Davis (1996). Identification of all bone was attempted but only those that could be clearly narrowed to species were used for NISP (Number of identifiable species) and MNI (minimum number of individuals) counts. Both epiphyses and shaft fragments were identified where possible. Fragmented elements are not counted multiple times which narrows down the assemblage and produces more accurate NISP and MNI results. MNI (minimum number of individuals) was calculated for all species present. MNI estimates the smallest number of animals that could be represented by the elements recovered. Identification of the faunal remains was carried out at Oxford Archaeology East. References to Hillson (1992), Schmid (1972) were used where needed for identification purposes.

C.1.4 The surface condition of the bone was assessed using the 0-5 scale devised by McKinley where 0 represents no erosion and 5 represents the total erosion of the surface bone (2004, 16, fig. 6).

C.1.5 For all identifiable bone butchery marks, burning and gnawing were recorded where observed. Tooth wear was recorded using Grant (1982) and fusion data is based on Silver (1970). Sex determination was attempted through examination of the greatest distal width (Bd) of metacarpals (McCormick 1997, 822). Withers height estimation is based on Von Dreich and Boessneck (1974).

Results of analysis

C.1.6 The surface condition of the bone is variable however the main bulk represents a 2 on the McKinley scale (2004, 16, Fig. 6), meaning that there is a small amount of erosion. Four fragments of bone show signs of carnivore gnawing.

C.1.7 Five species were identified; cattle, horse, sheep/goat, pig and Red deer. Unfortunately, the small size of the assemblage does mean that any interpretation on prevalence would be greatly biased. A full summary of the number of identifiable specimens (NISP) and minimum of individuals (MNI) per taxon are presented in Table 16 below.

Taxon	NISP	NISp %	MNI	MNI%
Cattle (*Bos Taurus*)	22	59.46	2	25
Horse (*Equus Callabus*)	2	5.41	1	12.5
Pig (*Sus sus*)	2	5.41	2	25
Red deer (*Cervus elaphus*)	3	8.11	1	12.5
Sheep/goat (*Ovis/Capra*)	7	18.92	1	12.5
Bird	1	2.7	1	12.5
Totals	**37**	**100**	**8**	**100**

Table 16: Number of identifiable specimens (NISP) and Minimum number of individuals (MNI)

C.1.8 Fusion data is recordable from seven fragments recorded in Table 18. Five specimens are of cattle bone and two of sheep/goat. Eight specimens were available for recording tooth wear. These represented cattle, sheep/goat and pig and are presented in Table 19. Although the dataset is small it can be tentatively suggested that cattle were being used for secondary products such as milk. While sheep and pigs were slaughtered earlier and were primarily kept for meat consumption.

C.1.9 A single cattle metapodial from pit **2630** had a length of 20.7cm indicating a withers height of 113.22 cm on Von Dreich and Boessneck (1974) and a distal breadth of 51mm indicating a female cow (McKormick, 2007).

C.1.10 Three examples of butchery are present. Two fragments of red deer antler from watering hole **2630** display saw marks removing the tines and saw marks on the base of the antler. A pig mandible shows evidence of a single chop mark on the epicondyle. A single fragment of burnt bone is present from ditch **1600.**

Discussion

C.1.11 Primarily these specimens represent domestic waste. The limited fusion data suggests a practise of using cattle not just for meat but for secondary products. Pigs and sheep/goat were slaughtered early for meat consumption. The saw marks on the antler within pit **2630** is suggestive of bone working. Due to the small size of the assemblage few other conclusions can be reached as regards the butchery or dietary practices of this population.

Summary catalogue tables

Trench	Group	Cut	Context	Type	Period	Taxon	Element	Count	Erosion
3	-	**304**	305	Ditch	3	Cattle	Metapodial	1	3
13	Ditch 1300	**1300**	1302	Ditch	2	Large mammal	Rib	1	3
16	Ditch 1400	**1600**	1601	Ditch	2	Large mammal	Long bone	1	1
Ex	Ditch 1400	**2600**	2601	Ditch	2	Cattle	Radius	1	3
Ex	Ditch 1400	**2600**	2601	Ditch	2	Sheep/Goat	Loose mand cheek tooth	1	2
Ex	Water hole	**2614**	2617	Water hole	2	Large mammal	Femur	1	2

Trench	Group	Cut	Context	Type	Period	Taxon	Element	Count	Erosion
Ex	Water hole	**2614**	2617	Water hole	2	Large mammal	Scapula	1	2
Ex	Water hole	**2614**	2617	Water hole	2	Sheep/Goat	Loose mand cheek tooth	1	1
Ex	Water hole	**2614**	2617	Water hole	2	Cattle	Loose mand cheek tooth	1	1
Ex	Water hole	**2614**	2617	Water hole	2	Cattle	Loose max cheek tooth	1	1
Ex	Water hole	**2614**	2618	Water hole	2	Large mammal	Radius	1	2
Ex	Water hole	**2614**	2618	Water hole	2	Cattle	Metapodial	1	1
Ex	Water hole	**2614**	2619	Water hole	2	Sheep/Goat	Humerus	1	2
Ex	Water hole	**2614**	2619	Water hole	2	Cattle	Loose mand cheek tooth	2	2
Ex	Ditch 1400	**2607**	2620	Ditch	2	Cattle	Loose max cheek tooth	1	1
Ex	Water hole	**2630**	2631	Water hole	2	Fallow deer	Antler	1	1
Ex	Water hole	**2630**	2631	Water hole	2	Cattle	Tibia	1	1
Ex	Water hole	**2630**	2631	Water hole	2	Horse	Metapodial	1	1
Ex	Water hole	**2630**	2631	Water hole	2	Cattle	Mandible	1	1
Ex	Water hole	**2630**	2631	Water hole	2	Large mammal	Long bone	1	2
Ex	Water hole	**2630**	2631	Water hole	2	Cattle	Maxilla	1	1
Ex	Water hole	**2630**	2631	Water hole	2	Cattle	Loose max cheek tooth	2	1
Ex	Water hole	**2630**	2631	Water hole	2	Pig	Mandible	1	1
Ex	Water hole	**2630**	2631	Water hole	2	Sheep/Goat	Mandible	1	1
Ex	Water hole	**2630**	2631	Water hole	2	Sheep/Goat	Tibia	1	1
Ex	Water hole	**2630**	2631	Water hole	2	Sheep/Goat	Radius	1	1
Ex	Water hole	**2630**	2631	Water hole	2	Medium mammal	Metapodial	1	1
Ex	Water hole	**2630**	2631	Water hole	2	Medium mammal	Radius	1	1
Ex	Water hole	**2630**	2631	Water hole	2	bird	Long bone	1	1
Ex	Water hole	**2630**	2632	Water hole	2	Cattle	Metatarsus	1	1
Ex	Water hole	**2630**	2632	Water hole	2	Red deer	Antler	1	2
Ex	Water hole	**2630**	2632	Water hole	2	Cattle	Mandible	1	1
Ex	Water hole	**2630**	2632	Water hole	2	Cattle	Mandible	1	1
Ex	Water hole	**2630**	2633	Water hole	2	red deer	Antler	1	2
Ex	Water hole	**2630**	2633	Water hole	2	Cattle	Tibia	1	1

Trench	Group	Cut	Context	Type	Period	Taxon	Element	Count	Erosion
Ex	Water hole	**2630**	2633	Water hole	2	Cattle	Metatarsus	1	1
Ex	Water hole	**2630**	2633	Water hole	2	Sheep/Goat	Radius	1	1
Ex	Water hole	**2630**	2633	Water hole	2	Medium mammal	Scapula	1	1
Ex	Water hole	**2630**	2633	Water hole	2	Pig	Mandible	1	2
Ex	Water hole	**2630**	2633	Water hole	2	Horse	Loose mand cheek tooth	1	2
Ex	Water hole	**2630**	2633	Water hole	2	Cattle	Loose mand cheek tooth	1	1
Ex	Water hole	**2630**	2633	Water hole	2	Cattle	Loose mand cheek tooth	3	1
Ex	Water hole	**2630**	2633	Water hole	2	Medium mammal	Pelvis	1	1

Table 17: Catalogue of bone by context

Context	Element	Taxon	ProximalFus	DistalFus	Side	(Age months)
2631	Radius	Sheep/Goat	Fused	Absent	Left	3-10 months
2631	Tibia	Cattle	Fused	Absent	Left	42-48
2632	Metatarsus	Cattle	Fused	Fused	Right	24-36
2601	Radius	Cattle	Absent	Fused	Unsided	42-48
2631	Tibia	Sheep/Goat	Absent	Fused	Right	15-24
2633	Metatarsus	Cattle	Absent	Fused	Unsided	24-36
2633	Tibia	Cattle	Absent	Fused	Right	24-30

Table 18: Fusion data for all Taxa

Context	Element	Taxon	Side	Age (months)
2631	Mandible	Sheep/Goat	Left	12 - 21
2631	Mandible	Pig	Left	10 - 11
2631	Maxilla	Cattle	Unsided	50
2631	Mandible	Cattle	Left	8 - 13
2632	Mandible	Cattle	Right	24
2632	Mandible	Cattle	Left	40 - 50
2633	Mandible	Pig	Left	27 - 29
2633	Loose mand cheek tooth	Cattle	Unsided	38

Table 19: Tooth wear data for all species

C.2 Environmental Samples

By Martha Craven

Introduction

C.2.1 A total of thirteen bulk samples were taken from features within the site. The samples were taken from a variety of features that are thought to date from the Late Iron Age and post-medieval periods. The samples were processed to determine whether plant

remains and environmental indicators such as molluscs are present, their mode of preservation and whether they are of interpretable value for further specialist study.

Methodology

C.2.2 Each sample was processed by tank flotation using modified Sīraf-type equipment for the recovery of preserved plant remains, dating evidence and any other artefactual evidence that might be present. The floating component (flot) of the samples was collected in a 0.3mm nylon mesh and the residue was washed through 10mm, 5mm, 2mm and a 0.5mm sieve.

C.2.3 A magnet was dragged through each residue fraction for the recovery of magnetic residues prior to sorting for artefacts. Any artefacts present were noted and reintegrated with the hand-excavated finds.

C.2.4 The dried flots were subsequently sorted using a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 60 and an abbreviated list of the recorded remains are presented in Table 20.

C.2.5 Identification of plant remains is with reference to the Digital Seed Atlas of the Netherlands (Cappers *et al*. 2006) and OA East's reference collection. Nomenclature is according to Zohary and Hopf (2000) for cereals and Stace (2010) for other plants. The identification of cereals has been based on the characteristic morphology of the grains and chaff as described by Jacomet (2006).

Quantification

C.2.6 For the purpose of this assessment, items such as seeds and cereal grains have been scanned and recorded qualitatively according to the following categories:

= 1-5, ## = 6-25, ### = 26-100, #### = 100+ specimens

C.2.7 Items that cannot be easily quantified such as molluscs have been scored for abundance

+ = rare, ++ = moderate, +++ = frequent, ++++ = abundant, +++++ = super abundant

Results

C.2.8 The botanical material from this site is extremely sparse and consists of carbonised (charred) plant remains only.

C.2.9 The samples from this site are largely either devoid of charcoal or contain only very small quantities. Sample 13 fill 2623 of pit **2611** (Period 2 Pit Group 2611; Trench 26), is the only exception as it contains approximately 20ml of charcoal. The only other plant remains recovered from the samples consist of a single fragment of a hazelnut (*Corylus avellana*) shell in Sample 6, fill 1601 of ditch **1600** (Period 2 Ditch 1400; Trench 16) and a single barley (*Hordeum vulgare*) grain recovered from Sample 12, fill 2616 of ditch **2606** (Period 2 Ditch 1400; Trench 26).

C.2.10 Most of the samples from this site contain small to moderate quantities of relatively well-preserved molluscs.

Sample No.	Context No.	Cut No.	Trench No.	Feature type	Volume Processed (L)	Flot Volume (ml)	Cereals	Tree/Shrub Macrofossils	Snails	Charcoal Volume (ml)	Pottery	Flint debitage
1	103	100	1	Ditch	16	15	0	0	'+	1	0	0
2	104	101	1	Ditch	19	5	0	0	'+	<1	0	0
3	305	304	3	Ditch	16	40	0	0	'+++	<1	0	0
4	1302	1300	13	Ditch	18	90	0	0	'+	<1	#	0
5	1401	1400	14	Ditch	20	30	0	#f	'+	<1	0	0
6	1601	1600	16	Ditch	20	70	0	0	'+	2	#	#
7	2401	2400	24	Tree Throw	32	60	0	0	'+++	<1	0	##
8	1001	1000	10	Ditch	16	20	0	0	'++		0	0
11	2615	2613	26	Pit	20	50	0	0	0	<1	#	#
12	2616	2606	26	Ditch	18	20	#	0	'+	1	0	0
13	2623	2611	26	Pit	8	40	0	0	'+	20	0	##
14	2624	2612	26	Pit	10	40	0	0	0	1	0	0
15	2627	2626	26	Pit	20	100	0	0	0	2	0	#

Table 20: Environmental samples

Discussion

C.2.11 The small quantity of plant remains recovered from these samples are not indicative of deliberate deposition and are likely to represent a background scatter of refuse from activity in the area. If greater quantities of hazelnut shell were present it may hint at the gathering of wild plant resources as part of the diet; the sample having been taken from a prehistoric ditch deposit. Similarly, the single barley grain recovered from Sample 12 can provide little information on its own with regards to the agricultural and domestic practices at this site. Unfortunately, it seems that the assemblage has little potential to aid the local, regional or national research priorities beyond the record of the botanical remains presented in this report.

C.3 Radiocarbon date

University of BRISTOL

Tuesday, 23 February 2021

Report on Radiocarbon Age Determination for BRAMS-4244

brams
Bristol Radiocarbon Accelerator Mass Spectrometer
43 Woodland Road,
BRISTOL, BS8 1UU,
UK

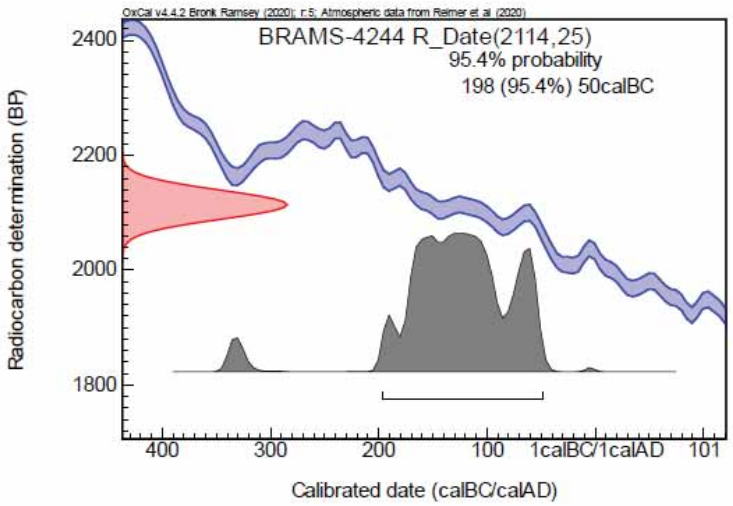
Submitter:	Rachel Fosberry
Submitter's Code:	2617 (Sheep/goat)
Project:	ACT095
Sample material:	Bone
Pretreatment Code:	BC

$F^{14}C$	**0.7686± 0.0024**
Result	**2114 ± 25 BP**
Indicative $\delta^{13}C$	**-22.8 ‰**

The result is given in uncalibrated radiocarbon years Before Present (BP). Data given are corrected for isotopic fractionation using the $^{13}C/^{12}C$ ratio measured on the AMS. The $\delta^{13}C$ value was measured on the AMS and may have been subject to additional isotopic fractionation. The error associated with this value is typically ±1‰.

Calibration Plot

Calibration was performed using OxCal software v4.4 and the IntCal20 atmospheric calibration curve



Dr. Timothy Knowles
BRAMS Manager

Notes:

Pretreatment methods employed and their respective pretreatment codes are described in Knowles et al., 2019 along with details regarding graphitization, AMS measurement and data reduction.

Knowles, T.D.J., Monaghan, P.S., Evershed, R.P., 2019. Radiocarbon Sample Preparation Procedures and the First Status Report from the Bristol Radiocarbon AMS (BRAMS) Facility. *Radiocarbon* 1–10, doi:10.1017/RDC.2019.28.

Bronk Ramsey, C., 2009. Bayesian Analysis of Radiocarbon Dates. *Radiocarbon* 51, 337–360.

Reimer, P., Austin, W., Bard, E., Bayliss, A., Blackwell, P., Bronk Ramsey, C., Butzin, M., Cheng, H., Edwards, R., Friedrich, M., Grootes, P., Guilderson, T., Hajdas, I., Heaton, T., Hogg, A., Hughen, K., Kromer, B., Manning, S., Muscheler, R., Palmer, J., Pearson, C., van der Plicht, J., Reimer, R., Richards, D., Scott, E., Southon, J., Turney, C., Wacker, L., Adolphi, F., Büntgen, U., Capano, M., Fahrni, S., Fogtmann-Schulz, A., Friedrich, R., Köhler, P., Kudsk, S., Miyake, F., Olsen, J., Reinig, F., Sakamoto, M., Sookdeo, A., & Talamo, S. (2020). The IntCal20 Northern Hemisphere radiocarbon age calibration curve (0–55 cal kBP). Radiocarbon, 62.

APPENDIX D BIBLIOGRAPHY

Abbott, C.	1998	*County Farm, Chilton. Archaeological Excavation*. Ipswich: Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service
Albarella, U. and Davis, S.J.	1996	'Mammals and birds from Launceston Castle, Cornwall: decline in status and the rise of agriculture', *Circaea* 12 (1), 1-156
Anderson, K.	2010	'Iron Age and Roman Pottery' in Tabor, J., Land east of Days Road, Capel St. Mary, Suffolk, An Archaeological Excavation, Volume I: Excavation Report, Cambridge Archaeological Unit, University of Cambridge, Report No. 957, 50-54
Barton, R. N. E.	1992	Hengistbury Head Dorset volume 2: The Late Upper Palaeolithic and Early Mesolithic Sites, Oxford University Committee for Archaeology, Monograph 34
Brooks, R.	2013	Long Melford Primary School, Long Melford, Post-Excavation Assessment Report, Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, SCCAS Report No. 2012/13
Brudenell, M.	2014	'Later prehistoric pottery' in Tabor, J., Later Prehistoric Settlement at Days Road, Capel St. Mary, Proc. Suffolk Inst. Archaeol., Vol. 43, Part 2, 186-195
Brudenell, M.	2017	'Later Prehistoric pottery', in Clarke, G, Bronze Age and Early Saxon settlement remains on Land East of Warren Hill, Saxmundham, Suffolk. Archaeological Excavation. Oxford Archaeology East Report 2029
Brudenell, M., and Hogan, S.	2014	Refining Suffolk's later prehistoric ceramic sequence: Iron Age pottery and settlement remains at Morland Road Ipswich, Proc. Suffolk Inst. Archaeol., Vol. 43, Part 2
Butler, C.	2005	Prehistoric Flintwork, Tempus, Stroud, Gloucestershire
Cappers, R.T.J, Bekker R.M, and Jans, J.E.A.	2006	Digital Seed Atlas of the Netherlands Groningen Archaeological Studies 4, Barkhuis Publishing, Eelde, The Netherlands. www.seedatlas.nl
Caruth, J.	2002	*Archaeological Monitoring Report. 24/25 Church Field Road, Chilton*. Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Report 2002/066
Egan, G.	1998 [2010]	The Medieval Household. Daily Living c.1150-1450, (Woodbridge, The Boydell Press)
Elsdon, S.	1992	'East Midlands Scored Ware', Transactions of the Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society 66, 83-91
Evans, C.	2003	Excavations at Wardy Hill Ringwork, Coveney, Ely, *East Anglian Archaeology Reports* 103, Cambridge, Cambridge Archaeological Unit
Firth, D.	2018	*Land South of Bull Lane, Long Melford, Suffolk. Excavation Report*. OA East report no. 2174
Grant, A.	1982	'The use of tooth wear as a guide to the age of domestic ungulates', in B. Wilson, C. Grigson and S. Payne (eds.), *Ageing and sexing animal bones from archaeological sites*, 91-108. (British Archaeological Reports British Series 109). Oxford: BAR
Hammond, M.	1981	*Bricks and Brickmaking*

Harley, L.S.	1974	A Typology of Brick, *Journal of the British Archaeological Association* 3rd.Series, Volume 37, 63-87
Hefferan, J.	2008	South Oxfordshire Archaeological Group SOAG) Ceramic Building Material Recording, *SOAG Bulletin* no.62
Hill, J.D. and Braddock, P.	2006	'The Iron Age pottery', in Evans, C. and Hodder, I., (eds), Marshland communities and cultural landscapes. The Haddenham Project Volume 2, Cambridge, McDonald Institute for Archaeological Research, 152-194
Hill, J.D. and Horne, L.	2003	'Iron Age and Early Roman pottery', in Evans, C., Power and Island Communities: Excavations at the Wardy Hill Ringwork, Coveney, Ely, E. Anglian Archaeol. 103, 145-84
Hillson, S.	1992	*Mammal Bones and Teeth: An Introductory Guide to Methods and Identification.* London Institute of Archaeology: University College London
Jacomet, S.	2006	*Identification of cereal remains from archaeological sites.* (2nd edition, 2006) IPNA, Universität Basel / Published by the IPAS, Basel University
Lambrick, G.	2010	Fired Clay (Appendix 8) IN Neolithic to Saxon social and environmental change at mount farm, Berrisfield, Dorchester on Thames, *Oxford Archaeology Occas.Paper* 19
Martin, E.	1988	Burgh: Iron Age and Roman Enclosure, Ipswich, East Anglian Archaeology 40
Martin, E.	1989	'Commentary on the illustrated Iron Age pottery' in S. West, West Stow, Suffolk: The Prehistoric and Romano-British Occupation, Bury St Edmunds, East Anglian Archaeology 48, 65–68
Martin, E.	1993	Settlements on Hill-tops: Seven Prehistoric Sites in Suffolk, Ipswich, East Anglian Archaeology 65
Martingell, H.	1988	The Flint Industry in Wilkinson, T. J., Archaeology and Environment in South Essex: Rescue Archaeology along the Grays by-pass, 1979/80, East Anglian Archaeology report 42
McCormick, F. and Murray E.	2007	*Knowth and the Zooarchaeology of Early Christian Ireland.* Dublin: Royal Irish Academy
McKinley, J. I.	2004	Compiling a Skeletal Inventory: disarticulated and co-mingled remains in (eds) Brickley, M. and McKinley, J.I. *Guidelines to the Standards for Recording Human Remains* IFA Paper No. 7
McLaren, A.	2008	Flintworking in the British Later Bronze and Iron Ages: a critical review and Statement of research potential, Lithic Technology 33.2, 141-159
Medlycott, M.	2011	Research and Archaeology Revisited: a revised framework for the East of England. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers: 24
PCRG	2011	The Study of Later Prehistoric Pottery: General Policies and Guidelines for Analysis and Publication. Oxford: Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group Occasional Papers 1 and 2 (fourth edition)

Percival, S.	1998	'The Prehistoric Pottery', in Abbott, C., County Farm, Chilton Archaeological Excavation, (CHT 009), Suffolk County Council, Report no. 98/43, 18-20
Poole, C.	1984	Objects of Baked Clay, IN Cunliffe, B. *Danebury: An Iron Age hillfort in Hampshire*, Vol.2 The excvations 1969-1978: the finds, *CBA Research Report* no.52, 407-426
Pooley, L.	2016	*Archaeological excavation and monitoring on land to the rear of Chapel House, Chapel Green, Little St. Mary's, Long Melford, Suffolk, CO10 9HX: February-November 2015*. Colchester Archaeological Trust.
Reitz, E.J. and Wing, E.S.	2004	*Zooarchaeology*. Cambridge University Press
Saville, J.	1981	Iron Age Flintworking – Fact or Fiction? Lithics 2, 6 - 9
Schmid, E.	1972	*Atlas of Animal Bones for Prehistorians, Archaeologists and Quaternary Geologists*. Amsterdam-London-New York: Elsevier Publishing Company
Silver, I.A.	1970	The Ageing of Domestic Animals. In D.R. Brothwell and E.S Higgs (eds), Science in Archaeology: A Survey of Progress and Research, pp.283-302. New York: Prager Publishing
Sims, J.	2012	*Archaeological Monitoring Report: 9 Rivish Lane, Long Melford*. Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Report 2012/128
Spencer, H.E.P.	1966	A contribution to the geological history of Suffolk, Part 3: The Glacial Epoch, *Transactions of the Suffolk Naturalists*, Volume 13 (6), 366-390
Stace, C.	2010	*New Flora of the British Isles.* Third edition. Camb. Univ. Press
Thompson, I.	1982	'Grog-tempered 'Belgic' Pottery of South-eastern England', BAR British Series 108
von den Driesch, A. and Boessneck, J.	1974	'Kritische Anmerkungen zur Widerristhohenberechnung aus Langenmassen vor- und fruhgeschichtlicher Tierknochen', *Saugetierkundliche Mitteilungen 22*, 325-348
Wild, J.P.	2003	*Textiles in Archaeology*, Shire Archaeology, Princes Risborough
Young, R., and Humphrey, J.	1999	Flint use in England after the Bronze Age: Time for re-evaluation, Proceedings of the Prehistoric society 65, 231 - 242
Zohary, D., Hopf, M.	2000	Domestication of Plants in the Old World – The origin and spread of cultivated plants in West Asia, Europe, and the. Nile Valley. 3rd edition. Oxford University Press

APPENDIX E OASIS REPORT FORM

Project Details

OASIS Number	oxfordar3-384018		
Project Name	Iron Age Remains on Land South of Tamage Road, Acton, Suffolk		
Start of Fieldwork	08/06/2020	End of Fieldwork	16/07/2020
Previous Work	No	Future Work	No

Project Reference Codes

Site Code	ACT045	Planning App. No.	DC/19/03126
HER Number	ESF27361	Related Numbers	

Prompt	Direction from local Planning Authority
Development Type	Residential
Place in Planning Process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

Techniques used (tick all that apply)

☐	Field Observation (periodic visits)	☐	Part Excavation	☐	Salvage Record
☐	Full excavation (100%)	☐	Part Survey	☐	Systematic Field Walking
☐	Full Survey	☐	Recorded Observation	☐	Systematic Metal Detector Survey
☒	Geophysical Survey	☐	Remote Operated Vehicle Survey	☐	Test Pit Survey
☒	Open-Area Excavation	☐	Salvage Excavation	☒	Evaluation Trenches

Monument	Period
ditch	Iron Age (- 800 to 43)
pit	Iron Age (- 800 to 43)
Watering hole	Iron Age (- 800 to 43)
ditch	Post Medieval (1540 to 1901)
	Choose an item.
	Choose an item.
	Choose an item.
	Choose an item.
	Choose an item.

Object	Period
pottery	Iron Age (- 800 to 43)
Animal bone	Iron Age (- 800 to 43)
flint	Late Prehistoric (- 4000 to 43)
flint	Iron Age (- 800 to 43)
Fired clay	Iron Age (- 800 to 43)
CBM	Post Medieval (1540 to 1901)
pottery	Post Medieval (1540 to 1901)
brooch	Roman (43 to 410)
	Choose an item.
	Choose an item.
	Choose an item.

Insert more lines as appropriate.

Project Location

County	Suffolk
District	Babergh District
Parish	Acton

Address (including Postcode)

Land South of Tamage Road, Acton, Suffolk, CO10 0XH

HER office	Suffolk
Size of Study Area	3.5ha
National Grid Ref	TL 89168 44599

Project Originators

Organisation	OA East
Project Brief Originator	Gemma Stewart (SCCAS)
Project Design Originator	Pat Moan (OA East)
Project Manager	Pat Moan (OA East)
Project Supervisor	Anthony Haskins (OA East)

Project Archives

	Location	ID
Physical Archive (Finds)	SCCAS	ACT045
Digital Archive	SCCAS	ACT045
Paper Archive	SCCAS	ACT045

Physical Contents	Present?	Digital files associated with Finds	Paperwork associated with Finds
Animal Bones	☒	☒	☒
Ceramics	☒	☒	☒
Environmental	☒	☒	☒
Glass	☐	☐	☐
Human Remains	☐	☐	☐
Industrial	☐	☐	☐
Leather	☐	☐	☐
Metal	☒	☒	☒
Stratigraphic		☐	☐
Survey		☒	☐
Textiles	☐	☐	☐
Wood	☐	☐	☐
Worked Bone	☒	☒	☒
Worked Stone/Lithic	☒	☒	☒
None	☐	☐	☐
Other	☐	☐	☐

Digital Media		Paper Media	
Database	☒	Aerial Photos	☐
GIS	☒	Context Sheets	☒
Geophysics	☒	Correspondence	☒
Images (Digital photos)	☒	Diary	☐
Illustrations (Figures/Plates)	☒	Drawing	☒
Moving Image	☐	Manuscript	☐
Spreadsheets	☒	Map	☒
Survey	☒	Matrices	☐
Text	☒	Microfiche	☐

Virtual Reality	☐	Miscellaneous	☐
		Research/Notes	☐
		Photos (negatives/prints/slides)	☐
		Plans	☒
		Report	☒
		Sections	☒
		Survey	☒

Further Comments

APPENDIX F WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION

Land south of Tamage Road, Acton, Suffolk

Written Scheme of Investigation

Client: RPS Consulting Ltd

Prepared by	Pat Moan
Date prepared	February 2020
Version	1
Planning application no.	DC/19/03126
Invoice code	XSFTRA20
Site Code	ACT 045
Project number	23322
Project type	Trial Trenching
NGR	TL 89168 44599
OASIS No	oxfordar3-384018

oxfordarchaeology easteasteast

CONTENTS

1 GENERAL BACKGROUND

1.1.1 This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) conforms to the principles identified in Historic England's guidance documents *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)*, specifically the MoRPHE *Project Manager's Guide* (2015) and *Project Planning Note 3: Archaeological Excavation* (2008).

1.1.2 All work will be conducted in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists *Code of Conduct* (2014) and *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (2014).

1.1.3 This WSI also incorporates the requirements of the EAA *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003) and conforms to the Suffolk County Council's *Requirements for Trenched Archaeological Evaluation* (2017) document.

1.2 Circumstances of the project

1.2.1 Oxford Archaeology East (OA East) have been commissioned by RPS Consulting Ltd to undertake a programme of trenched evaluation on land proposed for the construction of 100 dwellings, vehicle access and public open space at land south of Tamage Road, Acton, Suffolk (TL 89168 44599).

1.2.2 This WSI has been prepared in response to recommendation for a Trenched Archaeological Evaluation presented by Hannah Cutler of the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service (SCCAS, email correspondence), and will be required as part a condition to be set out by Babergh District Council in respect to planning application DC/19/03126.

1.2.3 The decision on the need for any further work/mitigation will be made by SCCAS following the results of this evaluation. The scope of any further work (if required) will be specified in a separate SCCAS brief, and will require the submission and approval of a separate WSI.

1.3 The archaeological strategy

1.3.1 The programme of archaeological investigation will comprise:

- A suitable level of document research, drawing on appropriate information from the Suffolk Historic Environment Record (SHER)
- A trial trenched evaluation of the site. This will comprise trenching a 4% sample across the 3.5ha site. The sample will be achieved by the excavation of 25 x 30m long by 1.8m wide trenches. These will be laid out in accordance with the plan attached to this WSI.
- A further 1% contingency for additional trenching is available and can be used if required to aid in clarifying questions regarding the archaeological potential of the site.

1.4 Changes to this method statement

1.4.1 If changes need to be made to the methods outlined below – either before or during works on site – the SCCAS will be informed and asked to consider changes before they are made. Changes will be agreed in before work on site commences, or else at the earliest available opportunity.

2 THE GEOLOGY, TOPOGRAPHY AND OTHER FEATURES OF THE SITE

2.1.1 Acton is a small village and parish located 3km north-east of Sudbury, close to the Suffolk-Essex border. The site itself is situated lies just to the south of the modern village and bounded by Tamage Road to the north, Sudbury Road to the west and Vicarage lane to the east and south. The Site is currently arable farmland.

2.1.2 The site is situated on a gentle, north-west facing slope, from c. 67m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) at the eastern boundary to c. 60m aOD in the north-western corner. No watercourses or bodies of standing water are known to be present within the boundaries of the Site, or within close proximity.

2.1.3 The mapped bedrock geology underlying the Site is divided roughly equally between the western half of the site as Thanet Formation – Sand – and the eastern half as Crag Group – Sand. This bedrock is then overlain by superficial deposits of Lowestoft Formation – Diamicton (http://www.bgs.ac.uk/discoveringGeology/geologyOfBritain/viewer.html). (accessed 07/02/2020).

3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

The following section provides a brief summary of the archaeological background for the area surrounding the site. The Suffolk Historic Environment Record (SHER) has been consulted and a record search has been commissioned for the area immediately around the site. The Desk-Based Assessment produced by CgMs (now RPS, 2018) has also been referenced to produce this background.

3.1 Prehistoric

3.1.1 Prehistoric evidence within 1km of the Site is very limited; one Palaeolithic artefact was received during fieldwalking 1.3km to the east of the Site (WFG 018) whilst no evidence for Mesolithic or Neolithic activity has yet been revealed in the study area.

3.1.2 Bronze Age activity is potentially present within the study area; two circular cropmarks have been identified within from aerial photography; a 40m in diameter cropmark c. 1.2km north (ACT 016), and a 10m in diameter cropmark c. 1.3km east from the Site (WFG 007). These may represent typical Bronze Age round barrows, however, this has not been proven through investigation.

3.1.3 No evidence for Iron Age activity is known within the area.

3.2 Roman

3.2.1 The route of the Roman road from Colchester to Long Melford is conjectured to have passed through Great Waldingfield and Acton, possibly within c. 450m east from the Site, to join with the road from Long Melford to the north of Acton (Margary, 1955: 224; WFG 015 and ACT 019).

3.2.2 No archaeological features have been recorded within the study area to suggest Roman occupation. There is evidence for Roman sites from field-walking activities however, which have recorded findspots of Roman pottery sherds, coins, and adornments c. 530m north and c. 1.5km west from the Site . Further field-walking to the south-east beyond the study area encountered additional Roman material (ACT 045).

3.3 Medieval

3.3.1 Acton is not mentioned in the 1086 Domesday Survey. The Site was situated at this time equidistant between the large settlements of Long Melford to the west, Lavenham to the north, Little Waldingfield to the east, Newton to the south-east, and Sudbury to the south-west (Open Domesday, accessed 6th February 2020).

3.3.2 The Church of All Saints, c. 550m north from the Site, is of 13th flint construction, and contains an early 14th century brass effigy of Sir Robert de Buers (ACT 013).

3.3.3 Tyes, or greens, believed to have origins in the medieval period, are recorded at Cuckoo Tye Farm c. 1.2km west (MSF29616), and Potters Tye Farm (LMD 213) and Newman's Green (LMD 125), c. 1.5km and 920m south-west, respectively.

3.3.4 Acton Hall, c. 700m north from the Site, was constructed during the Victorian period on the remains of an elliptical 12th century moated homestead, believed to be the manor acquired by Sir Robert de Buers in 1311 (ACT 006).

3.3.5 Archaeological evaluation at Albany House, c. 300m north from the Site, encountered a possible medieval ditch on the alignment of a linear green marked on Hodkinson's map of 1783, and interpreted as a boundary (ACT 031). Disturbance to this was believed to represent post-medieval quarrying.

3.3.6 Three silver medieval coins from the 13th century were recovered during a field-walking exercise, c. 550m north-west from the Site (ACT 015).

3.4 Post-medieval to modern

3.4.1 The 17th century great house and parkland of Acton Place was situated between 970m and 1.8km north-west from the Site. The house was demolished in 1825, leaving only the servant's wing (ACT 020). The remains of a wall and floor were encountered 50m east from the site of Acton Place, likely associated with an ancillary building (ACT 028).

3.4.2 Sudbury Airfield was built in 1944, to the immediate south of the study site and extending beyond the study area to the south. The airfield was built to "Class A" specifications, allowing heavy bombers to take off from the three concrete runways. The accommodation, control and ancillary buildings were primarily focussed close to Great Waldingfield, c. 1.2km southeast from the Site (ACT 029). Earthworks associated with the airfield, possibly ammunition dumps, are recorded c. 1.5km south-west from the Site (CHT 012).

3.5 Undated

3.5.1 A sub-rectangular enclosure noted as a cropmark, c. 900m north-west from the Site, has been conjectured to have prehistoric, Roman or medieval origins, possibly representing a further medieval moated homestead (ACT 007).

4 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

4.1 Aims of the evaluation

4.1.1 This evaluation will seek to establish the character, date and state of preservation of archaeological remains within the proposed development area. The scheme of works detailed below aims to:

- establish the presence or absence of archaeological remains on the site, characterise where they are found (location, depth and extent), and establish the quality of preservation of any archaeology and environmental remains
- 'Ground-truth' the results of the geophysical survey
- provide sufficient coverage to establish the character, condition, date and purpose of any archaeological deposits
- provide sufficient coverage to evaluate the likely impact of past land uses, and the possible presence of masking deposits
- set results in the local, regional, and national archaeological context – and, in particular, its wider cultural landscape and past environmental conditions
- provide – in the event that archaeological remains are found – sufficient information to construct an archaeological mitigation strategy, dealing with preservation, the recording of archaeological deposits, working practices, timetables, and orders of cost.

4.2 Research frameworks

4.2.1 This excavation takes place within, and will contribute to the goals of Regional Research Frameworks relevant to this area:

- Glazebrook J. (1997). *Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern counties: 1. Resource Assessment*. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 3.
- Brown, N. & Glazebrook, J. (2000). *Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern counties: 2. Research Agenda and Strategy.* East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 8.
- Medlycott, M. (2011). *Research and Archaeology Revisited: A Revised Framework for the East of England*. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 24.

5 METHODS

5.1 Background research

5.1.1 A suitable level of background research will be undertaken before work on site commences. This research will draw on information in the Suffolk Historic Environment Record and Suffolk Records Office as well as the information presented in the DBA produced for the planning application (CgMs, now RPS, 2018), and will include historical sources, maps, previous archaeological finds, and past archaeological investigations in the vicinity. The results will not be presented separately, but will be incorporated into the final evaluation report.

5.2 Site code, Parish Code and OASIS number

5.2.1 The parish code ACT 045 has been obtained from the Suffolk HER, and will be used as the unique site code to the project.

5.2.2 An OASIS number has also been assigned to this project (oxfordar3-384018).

5.3 Trial Trenching

Excavation standards

5.3.1 The proposed archaeological evaluation and analysis will be conducted in accordance with current best archaeological practice and the appropriate national and regional standards and guidelines.

5.3.2 All work will be conducted in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct* and *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations*.

5.3.3 All fieldwork will be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the OA Field Manual (ed. D Wilkinson 1992), and the revised OA fieldwork manual (publication forthcoming). Further guidance is provided to all excavators in the form of the OA *Fieldwork Crib Sheets – a companion guide to the Fieldwork Manual.* These have been issued ahead of formal publication of the revised Fieldwork Manual.

Pre-commencement

5.3.4 Before work on site commences, service plans will be checked to ensure that access and groundworks can be conducted safely. Before trenching, the footprint of each trench will be scanned by a qualified and experienced operator using a CAT and Genny with a valid calibration certificate.

5.3.5 In order to minimise damage to the site and disruption to site users, Oxford Archaeology will agree the following with the client/landowner before work on site commences:

- the location of entrance ways
- sites for welfare units
- soil storage areas

- refuelling points for plant (if necessary), and the extent of any bunding required around fuel dumps
- access routes for plant and vehicles across the site

5.3.6 Access routes to, from and between trenches will be agreed on site at the start of works. Where possible, access routes will use tramlines in the crop, in order to reduce crop damage.

Excavation methods

5.3.7 A total of 25 trenches measuring 30m in length and 1.8m in width will be excavated in the positions shown on the plan attached to this WSI. This constitutes a 4% sample of the 3.5ha Site.

5.3.8 The trenches will set out by a Lecia survey-grade GPS fitted with "smartnet" technology with an accuracy of 5mm horizontal and 10mm vertical. Crop-permitting, the footprint of the trenches will also be metal detected prior to machining (see Section 5.7).

5.3.9 All trenches will be excavated by a mechanical excavator to the depth of geological horizons, or to the upper interface of archaeological features or deposits, whichever is encountered first. Overburden will be excavated in spits not greater than 100mm thick. A toothless ditching bucket with a bucket size of 1.8m will be used to excavate the trenches.

5.3.10 Topsoil, subsoil, and archaeological deposits will be kept separate during excavation, to allow for sequential backfilling of excavations. The trenches will not be backfilled without the approval of the SCCAS.

5.3.11 All machine excavation will take place under constant supervision of a suitably qualified and experienced archaeologist. The top of the first archaeological deposit will be cleared by machine, but will then be cleaned off by hand. Any archaeological deposits present will then be excavated by context to the level of the geological horizon where safe to do so. Trench spoil will be scanned visually and with a metal detector to aid recovery of artefacts.

5.4 Excavation of archaeological features and deposits

5.4.1 Excavation of all archaeological deposits will be done by hand unless otherwise agreed by the SCCAS. Significant archaeological features (e.g. solid or bonded structural remains, building slots or post-holes) will be preserved intact, even if fills are sampled.

5.4.2 Exposed surfaces will be cleaned by trowel and hoe as necessary in order to clarify features and deposits. Unless otherwise agreed by the SCCAS all features will be investigated and recorded to provide an accurate evaluation of archaeological potential, whilst at the same time minimising disturbance to archaeological structures, features and deposits.

5.4.3 There will be sufficient excavation to give clear evidence for the period, depth, and nature of any archaeological deposit. Investigation slots through all linear features will be a least 1m in width. Discrete features will be half-sectioned or excavated in quadrants where they are large or found to be

deep. In necessary, an auger will be used to gain information from deep deposits below 1m in depth.

5.5 Recording of archaeological deposits and features

5.5.1 Records will comprise survey, drawn, written, and photographic data.

Survey

5.5.2 Surveying will be done using a survey-grade differential GPS (Leica CS10/GS08 or Leica 1200) fitted with "smartnet" technology with an accuracy of 5mm horizontal and 10mm vertical.

5.5.3 The site grid will be accurately tied into the Ordnance Survey National Grid and located on the 1:2500 or 1:1250 map of the area. Elevations will be levelled to the Ordnance Datum.

Written records

5.5.4 A register of all trenches, features, photographs, survey levels, small finds, and human remains will be kept.

5.5.5 All features, layers and deposits will be issued with unique context numbers. Each feature will be individually documented on context sheets, and hand-drawn in section and plan. Written descriptions will be recorded on pro-forma sheets comprising factual data and interpretative elements.

5.5.6 Where stratified deposits are encountered, a Harris Matrix will be compiled during the course of the excavation.

Plans and sections

5.5.7 Site plans will normally be drawn at 1:50, but on deeply-stratified sites a scale of 1:20 will be used. Detailed plans of individual features or groups will be at an appropriate scale (1:10 or 1:20).

5.5.8 Long sections showing layers will be drawn at 1:50. Sections of features or short lengths of trenches will be drawn at 1:20. All section levels will be tied in to Ordnance Datum.

5.5.9 All site drawings will include the following information: site name, site code, scale, plan or section number, relevant context or feature numbers, orientation, date and the name or initials of the archaeologist who prepared the drawing.

Photogrammetric recording

5.5.10 Plans and sections may be supplemented with photogrammetric recording of the excavation areas. Photogrammetric models will be based on high-resolution digital photographs with a minimum file size of 5 MB. Photogrammetric processing will be conducted using the Agisoft Photosoft (Professional Edition) software, and will incorporate reference points taken by GPS-based survey equipment.

Photographs

5.5.11 The photographic record will comprise high resolution digital photographs.

5.5.12 Photographs will include both general site shots and photographs of specific features. Every feature will be photographed at least once. Photographs will include a scale, north arrow, site code, and feature number (where relevant), unless they are to be used in publications. The photograph register will record these details, and photograph numbers will be listed on corresponding context sheets.

5.6 Exceptional remains, including human remains

Significant archaeological features

5.6.1 If exceptional or unexpected features are uncovered, the SCC Archaeology Service will be informed, and their advice sought on further excavation or preservation.

5.6.2 Significant archaeological features (e.g. solid or bonded structural remains, building slots or post-holes) will be preserved intact, even if fills are sampled. The following features will normally be cleaned, recorded and preserved for future excavation, unless directed to by the SCC Archaeology Service:

- layers relating to domestic, craft or industrial activity (e.g. floor, middens)
- discrete features relating to domestic or industrial activity (e.g. kilns, ovens, hearths)
- artefact scatters (e.g. flint, metal-working debris).

5.6.3 If preservation *in situ* is required by the SCC Archaeology Service, all exposed surfaces will be cleaned and prepared for reburial beneath construction materials. If appropriate, the areas will be protected with geotextile or other buffering materials.

Human remains

5.6.4 If human remains are encountered, the Client, Suffolk Coroner, and the SCC Archaeology Service will be informed immediately.

5.6.5 Unless directed otherwise by the SCC Archaeology Service, human remains will be left in situ (covered and protected), until a full programme of excavation is agreed by the SCC Archaeology Service and Client. No further excavation will then take place in the vicinity of the remains until removal becomes necessary. If the remains are under imminent threat, or if the SCC Archaeology Service requires information on date and preservation, we will excavate and remove them.

5.6.6 Human remains will be excavated in accordance with all appropriate legislation and Environmental Health regulations. Excavation will only take place after Oxford Archaeology has obtained a Ministry of Justice exhumation licence.

5.7 Metal detecting and the Treasure Act

5.7.1 Metal detector searches will take place at all stages of the excavation by an experienced metal detector user who is approved by SCCAS. In this case, Trevor Southgate has agreed to undertake metal detecting for the project. Excavated areas will be detected immediately before and after mechanical stripping. Both excavated areas and spoil heaps will be checked. To prevent losses from night-hawking, features will be metal detected immediately after stripping.

5.7.2 Metal detectors will not be set to discriminate against iron.

5.7.3 Artefacts will be removed and given a small find number. Labels will be placed on the location of each 'small find' and surveyed in with a GPS.

5.7.4 If finds are made that might constitute 'Treasure' under the definition of the Treasure Act (1996), they will, if possible, be excavated and removed to a safe place. Should it not be possible to remove the finds on the day they are found, suitable security will be arranged. Finds that are 'Treasure' will be reported to the landowner and Suffolk Coroner within 14 days, in accordance with the Act. The County Finds Liaison Officer from the Portable Antiquities Scheme will also be informed.

5.8 Post-excavation processing

5.8.1 Processing will take place in tandem with excavation, and advice will be sought from relevant specialists on key artefact types. The Project Manager and fieldwork project officer will be given feedback to enable them to develop excavation strategies during fieldwork.

5.8.2 Any finds requiring specialist treatment and conservation will be sent for appropriate treatment.

5.8.3 Finds will be marked with context numbers, site code or accession number, as detailed in the requirements of the Suffolk County Council Stores.

5.9 Finds recovery and processing

Standards for finds handling

5.9.1 Finds will be exposed, lifted, cleaned, conserved, marked, bagged, and boxed in line with the standards in:

- United Kingdom Institute for Conservators (2012) *Conservation Guidelines No. 2*
- Watkinson & Neal (1988) *First Aid for Finds*
- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (2014) *Standard and Guidance for the Collection, Documentation, Conservation and Research of* Archaeological Materials
- English Heritage (1995) *A Strategy for the Care and Investigation of Finds.*

5.9.2 Where finds require conservation, this will be done in accordance with the guidelines of the Institute for Conservation (ICON),

Procedures for finds handling

5.9.3 At the start of work, a finds supervisor will be appointed to oversee the collection, processing, cataloguing, and specialist advice on all artefacts collected.

5.9.4 Artefacts will be collected by hand, sieving, and metal detector. Excavation areas and spoil will be scanned visually and with a metal detector to aid recovery of artefacts. All finds will be bagged and labelled according to the individual deposit from which they were recovered, ready for later cleaning and analysis. 'Special/small finds' may be located more accurately by GPS if appropriate.

5.9.5 Processing will take place in tandem with excavation, and advice will be sought from relevant specialists on key artefact types. (See the Appendix for a list of specialists.)

5.9.6 All artefacts recovered from excavated features will be retained for post-excavation processing and assessment, except:

- those which are obviously modern in date
- where very large volumes are recovered (typically ceramic building material)
- where directed to discard on site by the SCC Archaeology Service.

5.9.7 Where artefacts are not removed from site, a strategy will be employed to ensure a sufficient sample is retained, in order to characterise the date and function of the features they were excavated from. A record will be kept of the quantity and nature of artefacts which are not removed from site.

5.10 Sampling for environmental remains and small artefact retrieval

Standard methodology

5.10.1 Sampling methods will follow guidelines produced by Historic England and Oxford Archaeology. The project team will consult Historic England's Scientific Advisor on environmental sampling and dating where necessary. Where possible an environmental specialist(s) will visit the site to advise on sampling strategies which will be reviewed periodically during the length of the excavation. Specialists will be consulted where non-standard sampling is required (e.g. TL, OSL or archaeomagnetic dating) and if appropriate will be invited to visit the site and take the samples.

Standards for environmental sampling and processing

Paleoenvironmental remains will be sampled and processed in accordance to the OA Sampling Policy (2005) with reference to the relevant guidelines produced by Historic England:

- Oxford Archaeology 2005. *Environmental Sampling Guidelines*, 2nd ed.
- Historic England 2011. *Environmental Archaeology. A guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post excavation*, (2nd ed)
- Historic England 2008. *Guidelines for the Curation of Waterlogged Macroscopic Plant and Invertebrate Remains*.

- Historic England 2010. *Waterlogged Wood: Guidelines on the recording, sampling, conservation and curation of waterlogged wood*.
- Historic England 2012. *Waterlogged organic artefacts. Guidelines on their recovery, analysis and conservation*.
- Historic England 2008. *Investigative conservation. Guidance on how detailed examination of artefacts from archaeological sites can shed light on their manufacture and use.*
- Historic England 2014. *Animal Bones and Archaeology. Guidelines for Best Practice*.
- Historic England 2004. *Dendrochronology: Guidelines on Producing and Interpreting Dendrochronological Dates*.
- Historic England 2006. *Archaeomagnetic Dating. Guidelines for Producing and Interpreting Archaeomagnetic Dates*.
- Historic England 2008. *Luminescence Dating. Guidelines on Using Luminescence Dating in Archaeology*.
- Historic England 2015. *Archaeometallurgy. Guidelines for Best Practice.*
- Historic England 2015 *Geoarchaeology. Using Earth Sciences to Understand the Archaeological Record*.

Procedures for sampling and processing

5.10.2 Environmental samples (up to 40 litres or 100% of context if less is available) will be taken from a range of potentially datable features and well-stratified deposits to target the recovery of plant remains, fish, bird, small mammal and amphibian bone and small artefacts. Samples will be labelled with the site code, context number, and sample number and a register will be kept.

5.10.3 Larger soil samples (up to 100L) may be taken for the complete recovery of animal bones, marine shell and small artefacts from appropriate contexts. Smaller bulk samples (general biological samples) of 20 litres will be taken from any waterlogged deposits present for the recovery of macroscopic plant remains and insects. Series of incremental 2L samples may be taken through buried soils and deep feature fills for the recovery of snails and/or waterlogged plant remains, depending on the nature of the stratigraphy and of the soils and sediments.

5.10.4 Columns will be taken from buried soils, peats and waterlogged feature fills for pollen and/or phytoliths, diatoms, ostracods if appropriate. Soil samples will be taken for soil investigations (particle size, organic matter, bulk chemistry, soil micromorphology etc.) in consultation with the appropriate specialists. Where features containing very small artefacts such as micro-debitage and hammerscale are identified, 1L grid sampling may be employed.

5.10.5 Early feedback on selected samples taken during the excavation will result in a dynamic sampling strategy according the results of rapid assessment of typically 10L sub-samples.

5.10.6 Typically, 20 litres of each bulk sample will be processed standard water flotation using a modified Siraf-style machine and meshes of 0.3mm (flot) and 0.5 or 1mm depending on sediment type and like modes of preservation (residue). The remaining soil from a sample will be subsequently processed if appropriate based on the results of an initial assessment. Normally, early

prehistoric samples will be fully processed and samples containing human remains will always be fully processed. Heavy residues will be wet sieved, air dried and selectively sorted. Samples taken exclusively for the recovery of bones, marine shell or artefacts will be wet sieved to 2mm. Waterlogged samples will have a sub-sample (approximately 10L) processed as above and the flot will assessed whilst wet and again once dried. Snail samples (2L) will be processed by hand flotation with flots and residues collected to 0.5mm; these flots and residues will be sorted by the specialist.

5.10.7 Where practical, waterlogged wood specimens will be recorded in detail on site, in situ. When removed, they will be cleaned and photographed, and stored in wet cool conditions for assessment by a suitably qualified specialist (see the Appendix).

6 REPORTING

6.1 Evaluation Report

6.1.1 Post-excavation analysis and reporting will follow guidance in Historic England's *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (2015).

6.2 Contents of the evaluation report

6.2.1 The report will include:

- a title page detailing site address, site code and accession number, NGR, author/originating body, client's name and address
- full list of contents
- a non-technical summary of the findings
- the aims of the evaluation
- a description of the geology and topography of the area
- a description of the methodologies used
- a description of the findings
- tables summarising features and artefacts
- site and trench location plans, and plans of each area excavated showing the archaeological features found
- sections of excavated features
- interpretation of the archaeological features found
- specialist reports on artefacts and environmental finds
- relevant colour photographs of features and the site
- a predictive model of surviving archaeological remains, where affected by development proposals, and assessment of their importance at local, and regional level.
- a discussion of the relationship between findings on the site and other archaeological information held in the Suffolk Historic Environment Record
- a mitigation strategy for future work
- a bibliography of all reference material
- the OASIS reference and summary form.

6.3 Draft and final reports

6.3.1 A draft copy of the report will be supplied to the SCC Archaeology Service for comment.

6.3.2 Following approval of the report, one printed copy and one digital copy (PDF) will be presented to the SCCAS for deposition with the Suffolk Historic Environment Record.

6.3.3 Where positive results are drawn from the evaluation, a summary statement will be provided to the SCCAS suitable for inclusion in the *Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History* annual round up.

6.4 OASIS

6.4.1 A digital copy of the approved report will be uploaded to the OASIS database.

6.4.2 A copy of the OASIS Data Collection Form will be included in the report, including the OASIS reference oxfordar3-384018.

7 ARCHIVING

Archive standards

7.1.1 The site archive will conform to the requirements of Appendix 1 of the Historic England's (2015) *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (MoRPHE) and *the Archaeological Archives in Suffolk, Guidelines for preparation and deposition* (Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service 2017).

7.1.2 The preparation of the archive will follow the guidelines contained in *Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long Term Storage* (United Kingdom Institute for Conservation, 1990), *Standards in the Museum care of Archaeological Collections* (Museums and Galleries Commission 1992), and *Archaeological Archives: A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation (*Brown 2007*).*

Archive contents

7.1.3 The archive will be quantified, ordered, and indexed. It will include:

- artefacts
- ecofacts
- project documentation – including plans, section drawings, context sheets, registers, and specialist reports
- photographs (digital photographs will be stored on CD-ROM, and colour printouts made of key features)
- an archive-standard CD-ROM with electronic documentation (such as GIS and CAD files)
- a printed copy of the Written Brief
- a printed copy of the WSI
- a printed copy of the final report
- a printed copy of the OASIS form.

7.1.4 It is Oxford Archaeology Ltd's policy, in line with accepted practice, to keep site archives (paper and artefactual) together wherever possible.

Transfer of ownership

7.1.5 The archaeological material and paper archive produced from this investigation will be held in storage by OA East who will seek to transfer the complete project archive to the Suffolk County Council Stores, in order to facilitate future study and ensure long-term public access to the archive. To do so will require a transfer of title to the repository in line with the county's guidance on deposition of archaeological archives. Where the landowner wishes to retain items recovered during excavation, all selected artefacts will be fully drawn and photographed, identified, analysed, documented and conserved in order to create a comprehensive catalogue of items to be kept by the landowner before the remainder of the archive can be deposited in the Suffolk County Council Stores.

7.1.6 A written transfer of ownership document will be forwarded to the SCC Archaeology Service before the archive is deposited.

7.1.7 In the unlikely event that artefacts of significant monetary value are discovered, and if they are not subject to Treasure Act legislation, separate ownership arrangements may be negotiated following the creation of a comprehensive illustrated catalogue, as described above.

8 TIMETABLE

8.1.1 Trial trenching is expected to take approximately up to 6 working days to complete, based on a five-day week, working Monday to Friday. This does not allow for delays caused by bad weather, but it does include time for site set-up and final backfilling of trenches.

8.1.2 Post-excavation processing and assessment tasks will commence shortly after excavation commences, to inform the excavation strategy, and minimise time required to prepare the final report after excavation is completed.

8.1.3 Post-excavation tasks and report writing will take a maximum of four weeks following the end of fieldwork, unless there are exceptional discoveries requiring lengthier analysis.

8.1.4 The project archive will be deposited within six months of delivering the final report, unless the SCC Archaeology Service requires further excavation on the site.

9 STAFFING AND SUPPORT

9.1 Fieldwork

9.1.1 The fieldwork team will be made up of the following staff:

- 1 x Project Manager (supervisory only, not based on site)
- 1 x Project Officer/Supervisor (full-time)
- Up to 3 x Site Assistants (as required)
- 1 x Archaeological Surveyor (as required)
- 1 x Finds Assistant (part-time, as required)
- 1 x Environmental Assistant (part-time, as required)

9.1.2 The Project Manager will be Patrick Moan. Site work will be directed by one of OAE's Project Officers or Supervisors.

9.1.3 All Site Assistants will be drawn from a pool of qualified and experienced staff. Oxford Archaeology East will not employ volunteer, amateur, or student staff, whether paid or unpaid, except as an addition to the team stated above.

9.2 Post-excavation processing

9.2.1 If archaeology is present within the Site, we expect it to be of later prehistoric to medieval date.

9.2.2 Pottery will be assessed by Matt Brudenell (prehistoric), Alice Lyons (Roman) and Carole Fletcher (Anglo-Saxon and medieval).

9.2.3 Environmental analysis will be carried out by OA East staff, in consultation with the OA Environmental Department in Oxford. The results will be reported to Historic England's Regional Scientific Advisor. Environmental analysis will be undertaken by Rachel Fosberry (charred plant macrofossils, plant macrofossils), Liz Stafford (land molluscs), and Denise Druce and Mairead Rutherford (pollen analysis).

9.2.4 Faunal remains will be examined by Hayley Foster.

9.2.5 Conservation will be undertaken by Ipswich and Colchester Museums / Karen Barker (Antiquities Conservator), and will be undertaken in accordance with guidelines issued by the Institute for Conservation (ICON).

9.2.6 In the event that OA's in-house specialists are unable to undertake the work within the time constraints of the project, or if other remains are found, specialists from the list in the Appendix will be approached to carry out analysis.

10 OTHER MATTERS

10.1 Monitoring

10.1.1 The SCC Archaeology Service will be informed appropriately of dates and arrangements to allow for adequate monitoring of the works.

10.1.2 During the excavation, representatives Oxford Archaeology East (Matt Brudenell), RPS Consulting (Duncan Hawkins) and the SCCAS (Hannah Cutler) will meet on site to monitor the evaluation works, discuss progress and findings to date, and excavation strategies to be followed.

10.2 Insurance

10.2.1 OA East is covered by Public and Employer's Liability Insurance. The underwriting company is Lloyds Underwriters, policy number CC004337. Details of the policy can be supplied on request to the Oxford Archaeology East office.

10.3 Chartered Institute for Archaeologists

10.3.1 Oxford Archaeology is a Registered Organisation with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA), and is bound by CIfA By-Laws, Standards, and Policy.

10.4 Services, Public Rights of Way, Tree Preservation Orders etc.

10.4.1 The client will inform the project manager of any live or disused cables, gas pipes, water pipes or other services that may be affected by the proposed excavations before the commencement of fieldwork. Hidden cables/services should be clearly identified and marked where necessary. If there are overhead cables on the site or in the approachways, a survey must be completed by the relevant authority before plant is taken onto site.

10.4.2 The client will likewise inform the project manager of any public rights of way or permissive paths on or near the land which might affect or be affected by the work.

10.4.3 The client will inform the Project Manager if the site is a Scheduled Ancient Monument, Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), or any other type of designated site. The client will also inform the project manager of any trees subject to Tree Preservation Orders, protected hedgerows, protected wildlife, nesting birds, or areas of ecological significance within the site or on its boundaries.

10.5 Site Security

10.5.1 Unless previously agreed with the Project Manager in writing, this specification and any associated statement of costs is based on the assumption that the site will be sufficiently secure for archaeological work to

commence. All security requirements, including fencing, padlocks for gates etc. are the responsibility of the client.

10.6 Access

10.6.1 The client will ensure access to the site for archaeological personnel and plant is suitable, and obtain the necessary permissions from owners and tenants to place a mobile welfare cabin and portable toilet on or near to the site. Any costs incurred to secure access, or incurred as a result of withholding of access will not be Oxford Archaeology's responsibility. The costs of any delays as a result of withheld access will be passed on to the client in addition to the project costs already specified.

10.7 Site Preparation

10.7.1 The client is responsible for clearing the site and preparing it so as to allow archaeological work to take place without further preparatory works, and any cost statement accompanying or associated with this specification is offered on this basis. Unless previously agreed in writing, the costs of any preparatory work required, including tree felling and removal, scrub or undergrowth clearance, removal of concrete or hard standing, demolition of buildings or sheds, or removal of excessive overburden, refuse or dumped material, will be charged to the client, in addition to any costs for archaeological evaluation already agreed.

10.8 Site offices and welfare

10.8.1 Any site facilities – e.g. welfare facilities, tool stores, mess huts, and site offices – will be positioned to minimise disruption to other site users, and to minimise impact on the environment (including buried archaeology).

10.9 Backfilling/Reinstatement

10.9.1 Backfilling – but not specialist reinstatement – of trenches is included in the cost unless otherwise agreed with the client. Backfilling of the trenches will only take place with the approval of the SCC Archaeology Service.

10.10 Health and Safety, Risk Assessments

10.10.1 A risk assessment and method statement (RAMS) covering all activities to be carried out during the lifetime of the project will be prepared before work commences, and sent to the SCC Archaeology Service.

10.10.2 The risk assessment will conform to the requirements of health and safety legislation and regulations, and will draw on OA East's activity-specific risk assessment literature.

10.10.3 All aspects of the project, both in the field and in the office will be conducted according to OA East's Health and Safety Policy, Oxford Archaeology Ltd's Health and Safety Policy, and Health and Safety in Field

Archaeology (J.L. Allen and A. St John-Holt, 1997). A copy of OA East's Health and Safety Policy can be supplied on request.

11 APPENDIX: CONSULTANT SPECIALISTS

NAME	SPECIALISM	ORGANISATION
Allen, Leigh	Worked bone, CBM, medieval metalwork	Oxford Archaeology
Allen, Martin	Medieval coins	Fitzwilliam Museum
Allen, Martyn	Zooarchaeology	Oxford Archaeology
Anderson, Katie	Roman pottery	Freelance
Anderson, Sue	Medieval & post-medieval pottery (specifically from Norfolk & Suffolk), CBM and human remains	Freelance
Bamforth, Mike	Woodworking	York University
Barker, Karen	Small find conservation & X-Ray	Freelance
Bayliss, Alex	C14 advice	Historic England
Biddulph, Edward	Roman pottery	Oxford Archaeology
Billington, Lawrence	Lithics	Oxford Archaeology
Bishop, Barry	Lithics	Freelance
Blinkhorn, Paul	Iron Age, Anglo-Saxon and medieval pottery	Freelance
Booth, Paul	Roman pottery and coins	Oxford Archaeology
Boreham, Steve	Pollen and soils/ geology	Cambridge University
Broderick, Lee	Zooarchaeology	Oxford Archaeology
Brown, Lisa	Prehistoric pottery	Oxford Archaeology
Brudenell, Matt	Prehistoric pottery	Oxford Archaeology
Cane, Jon	Display & reconstruction artist	Freelance
Champness, Carl	Molluscs, geoarchaeology	Oxford Archaeology
Cotter, John	Medieval/post-medieval finds, pottery, CBM	Oxford Archaeology
Crummy, Nina	Small finds	Freelance
Cowgill, Jane	Slag/metalworking residues	Freelance
Dickson, Anthony	Worked Flint	Oxford Archaeology
Dodwell, Natasha	Osteology, including cremations	Oxford Archaeologist
Donelly, Mike	Lithics	Oxford Archaeology
Doonan, Roger	Slags, metallurgy	Freelance
Druce, Denise	Pollen, charred plants, charcoal/wood identification, sediment coring and interpretation	Oxford Archaeology
Drury, Paul	CBM (specialised)	Freelance
Fletcher, Carole	Medieval & post-medieval pottery, glass, shell & small finds	Oxford Archaeology
Fosberry, Rachel	Charred waterlogged and mineralised plant remains	Oxford Archaeology
Foster, Hayley	Zooarchaeologist	Oxford Archaeology
Fryer, Val	Molluscs/environmental	Freelance
Mark Gibson	Osteology	Oxford Archaeology

NAME	SPECIALISM	ORGANISATION
Gleed-Owen, Chris	Herpetologist (amphibians & reptiles)	CGO Ecology Ltd
Goffin, Richenda	Post-Roman pottery, building materials, painted wall plaster	Suffolk CC
Howard-Davis, Chris	Small finds, Mesolithic flint, leather, wooden objects and wood technology	Freelance
Locker, Alison	Fish bone	Freelance
Loe, Louise	Osteology	Oxford Archaeology
Lyons, Alice	Late Iron Age/Roman pottery	Oxford Archaeology
Martin, Toby	Anglo-Saxon metalwork and artefacts	Oxford University
Masters, Pete	Geophysics	Cranfield University
McIntyre, Lauren	Osteology	Oxford Archaeology
Middleton, Paul	Phosphates/garden history	Peterborough Regional College
Mould, Quita	Ironwork, leather	freelance
Nicholson, Rebecca	Fish and small mammal and bird bones, shell	Oxford Archaeology
Palmer, Rog	Aerial photographs	Air Photo Services
Percival, Sarah	Prehistoric pottery, quern stones	Freelance
Poole, Cynthia	Multi-period finds, CBM, fired clay	Oxford Archaeology
Popescu, Adrian	Roman and later coins	Fitzwilliam Museum
Quinn, Patrick	Pottery thin section, ceramic petrology	UCL
Riddler, Ian	Worked bone objects & related artefact types	Freelance
Robinson, Mark	Insects	Oxford University
Rowland, Steve	Zooarchaeology & osteology	Oxford Archaeology
Rutherford, Mairead	Pollen, diatoms, *etc*	Oxford Archaeology
Samuels, Mark	Architectural stonework	Freelance
Scott, Ian	Roman, medieval, post-medieval finds, metalwork, glass	Oxford Archaeology
Shaffrey, Ruth	Worked stone and Roman CBM	Oxford Archaeology
Smith, David	Insects	University of Birmingham
Smith, Ian	Zooarchaeology	Oxford Archaeology
Spoerry, Paul	Medieval pottery	Oxford Archaeology
Stafford, Liz	Molluscs and geoarchaeology	Oxford Archaeology
Timberlake, Simon	Archaeometallurgy & geoarchaeology	Freelance
Tyers, Ian	Dendrochronology	Sheffield University
Ui Choileain, Zoe	Osteology & zooarchaeology	Oxford Archaeology
Vickers, Kim	Insects	Sheffield University
Wadeson, Stephen	Samian pottery, Roman glass	Oxford Archaeology
Walker, Helen	Medieval pottery (Essex)	Essex CC
Way, Twigs	Medieval landscape and garden history	Freelance

NAME	SPECIALISM	ORGANISATION
Webb, Helen	Osteology	Oxford Archaeology
Young, Jane	Medieval Pottery (Lincolnshire)	Freelance
Zant, John	Roman coins	Oxford Archaeology

Radiocarbon dating is normally undertaken for Oxford Archaeology East by SUERC and by the Oxford University Accelerator Laboratory.

Geophysical prospection is normally undertaken by Magnitude Surveys Ltd.

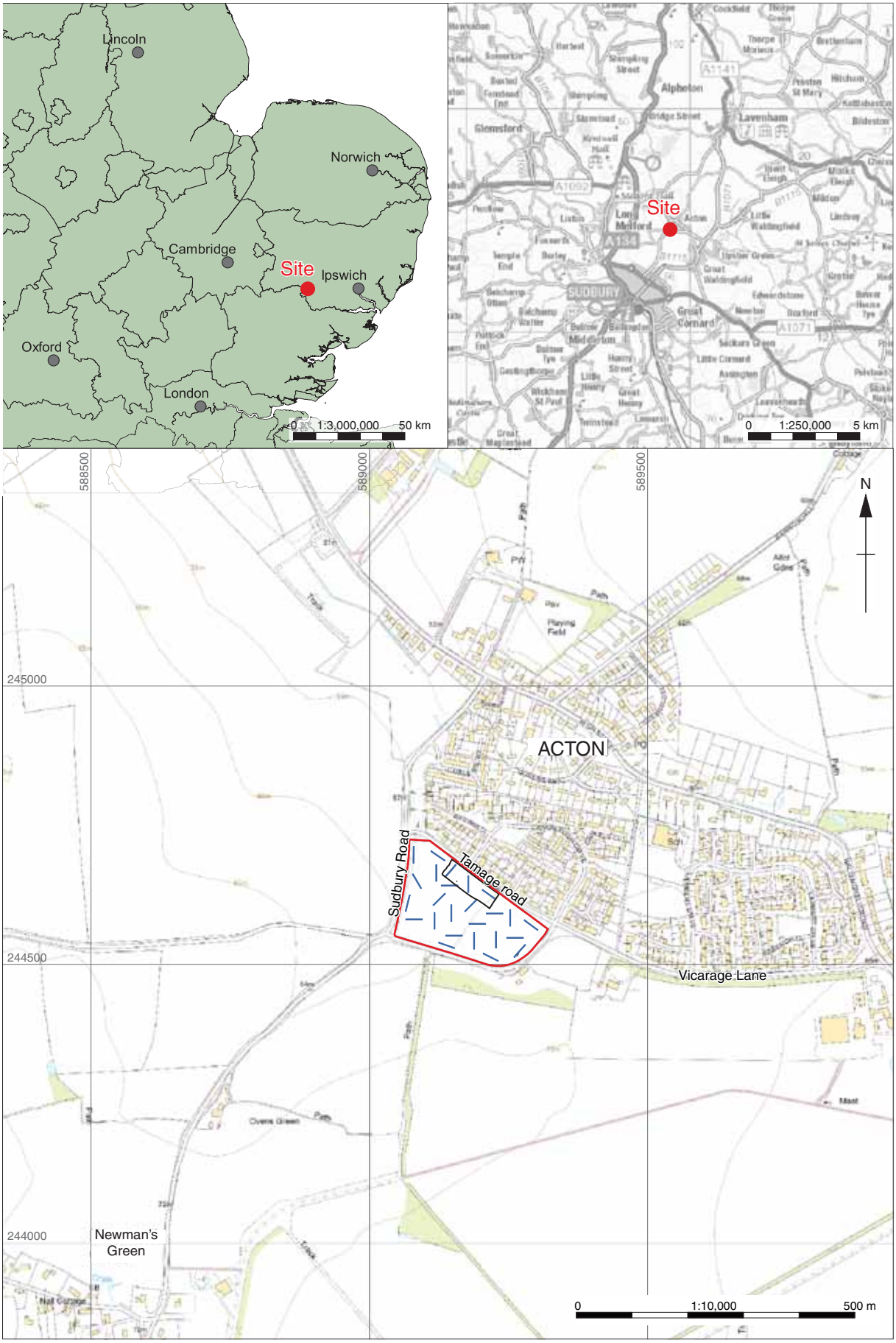


Figure 1: Site location showing development area (red), evaluation trenches (blue) and excavation area (black)

Figure 2: Evaluation trenches and excavation area with SUMO geophysical survey results (reproduced from RPS 2018, fig. 3)

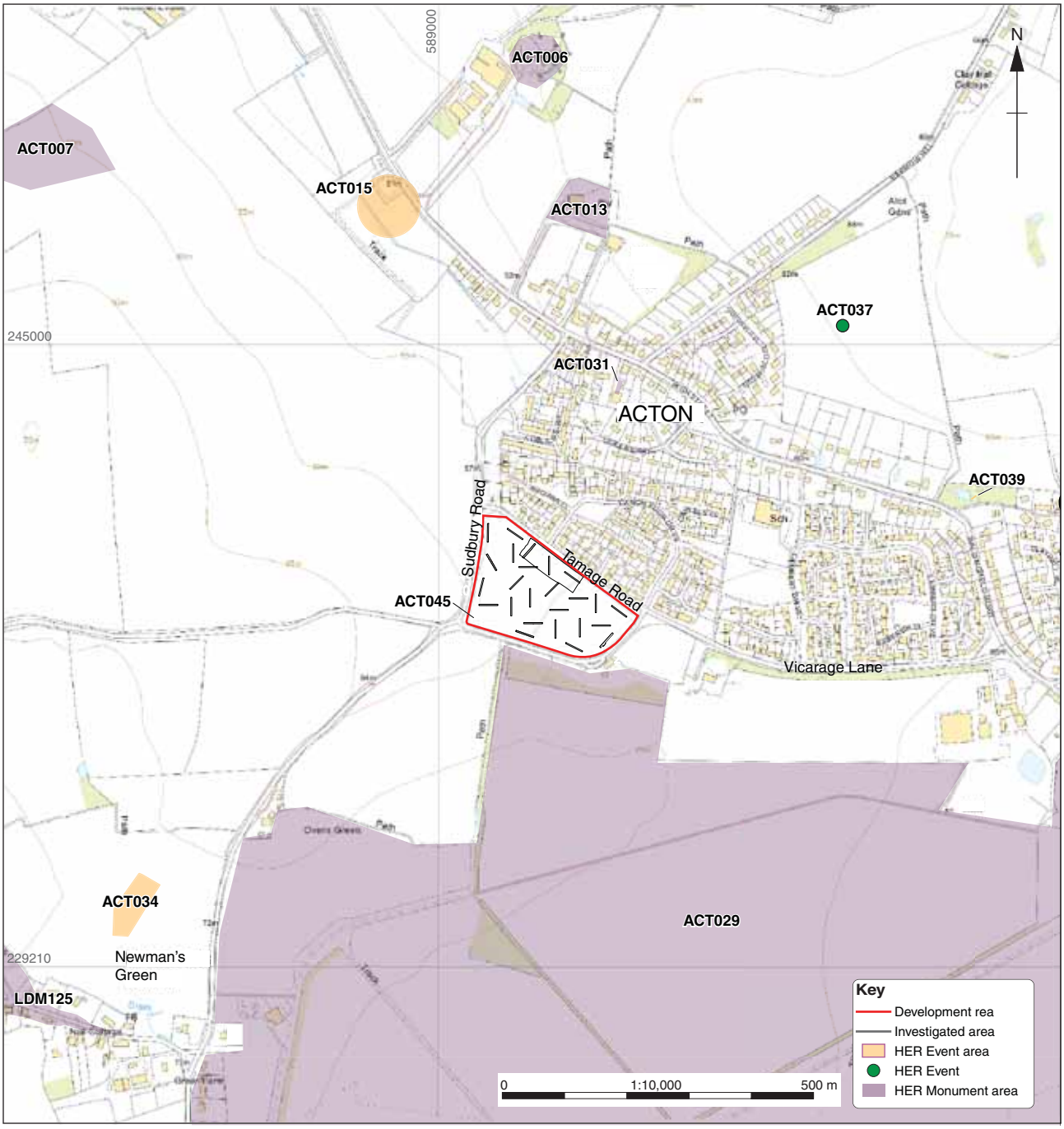


Figure 3: Map showing location of SHER monuments and events

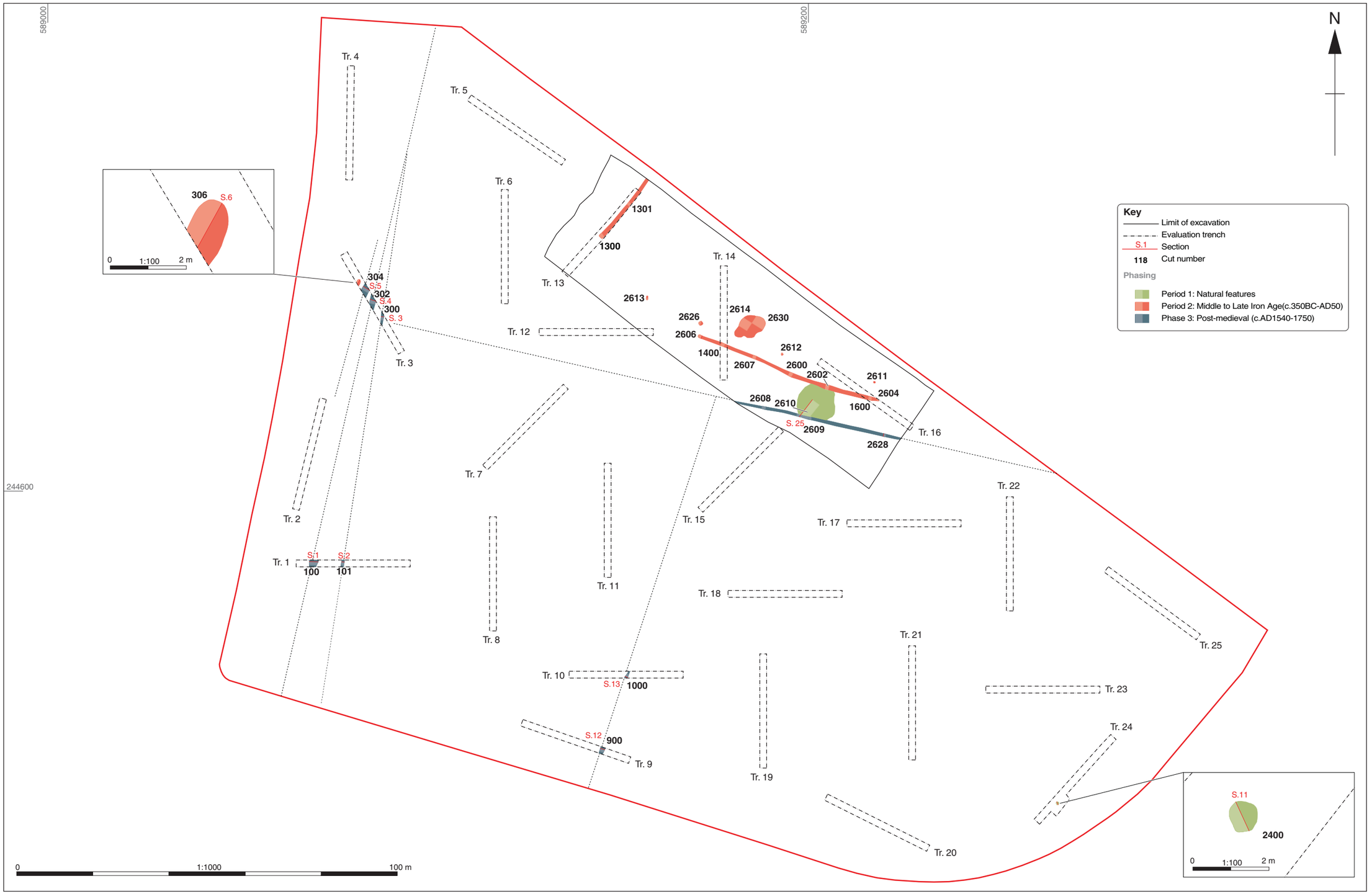


Figure 4: Phase plan of evaluation and excavation results

Figure 5: Period 2 phase plan (Middle to Late Iron Age)

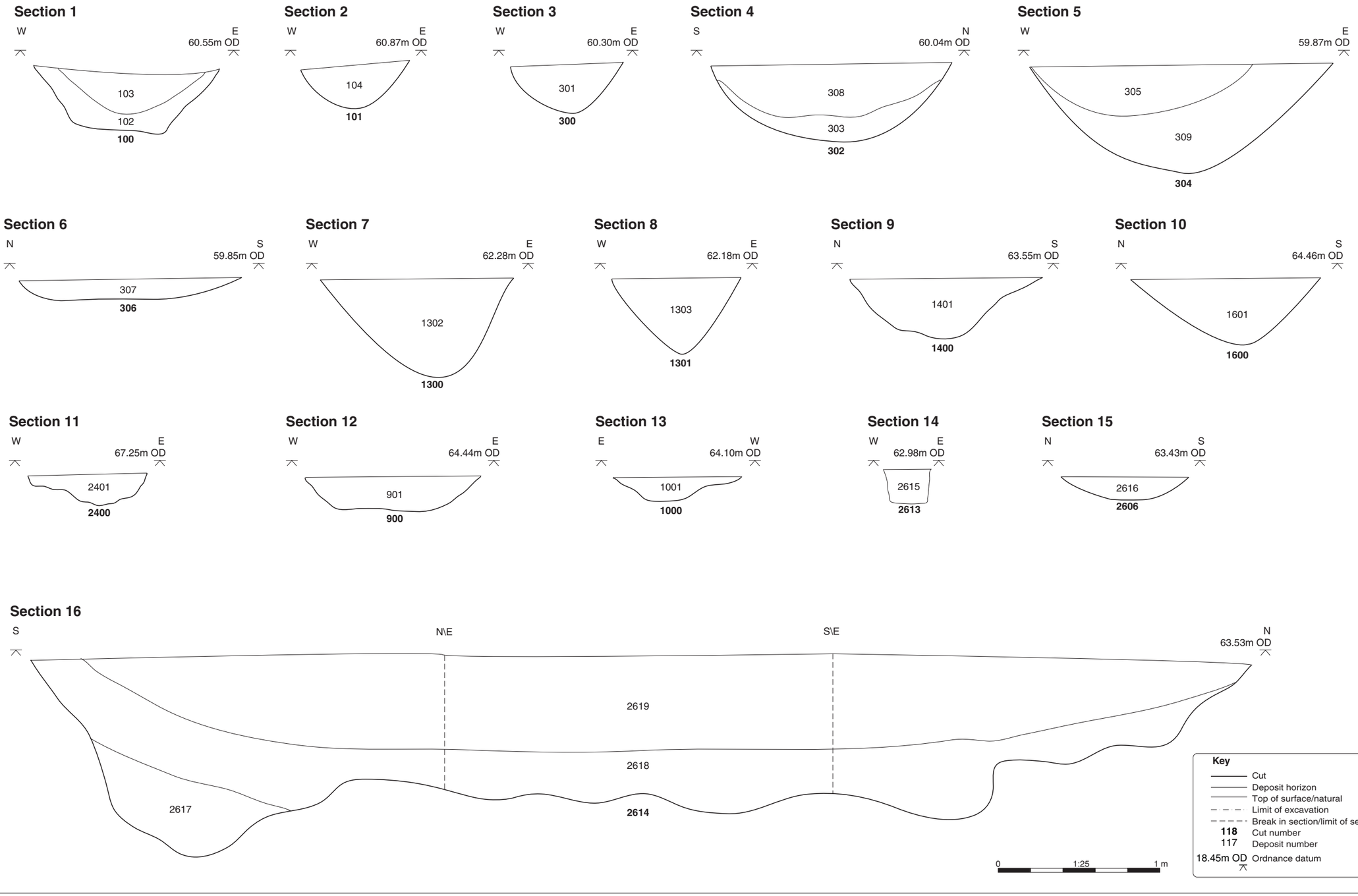


Figure 6: Selected sections

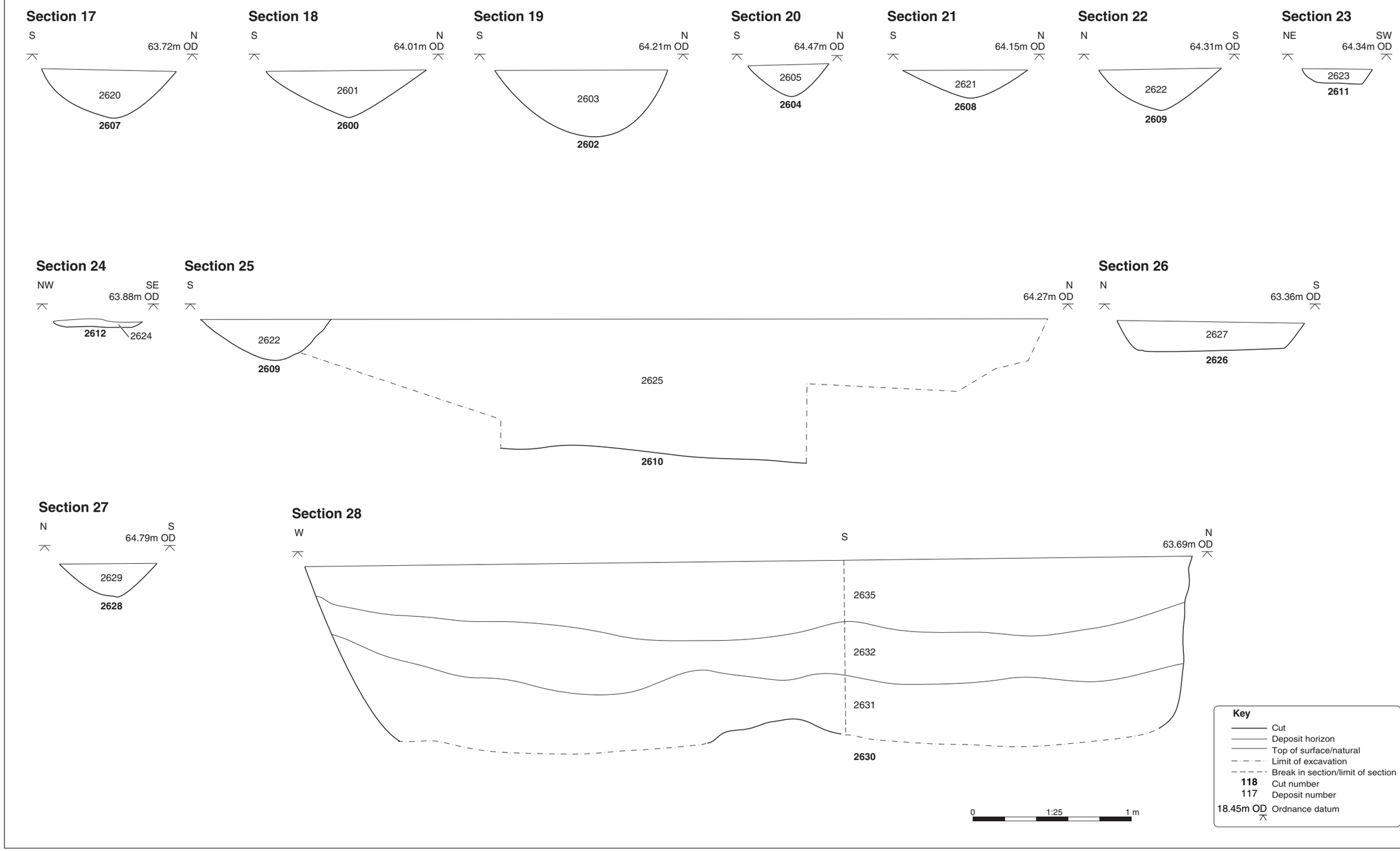


Figure 7: Selected sections

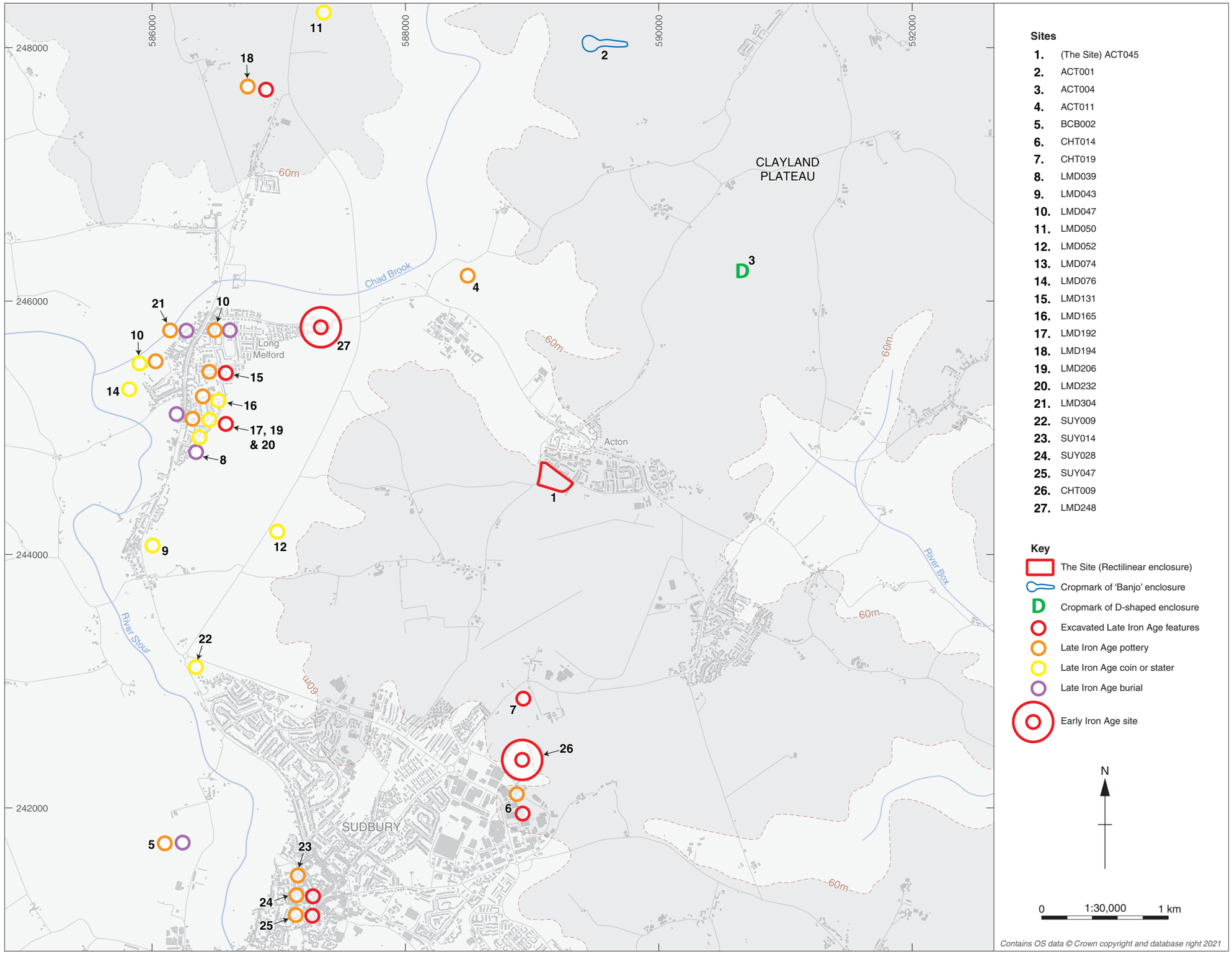


Figure 8: Overview of Late Iron Age sites surrounding Acton

Plate 1: Aerial view of the site, looking west

Plate 2: Trench 2, looking south

Plate 3: Trench 4, looking south

Plate 4: Trench 8, looking north

Plate 5: Trench 17, looking south

Plate 6: Trench 18, looking east

Plate 7: Trench 25, looking north-west

Plate 8: Period 1 solution hollow **2610**, looking north-west

Plate 9: Period 1 tree throw **2400**, looking north-east

Plate 10: Period 2 ditch **1300**, looking north

Plate 11: Period 2 ditch **1600**, looking west

Plate 12: Period 2 pit **2626**, looking east

Plate 13: Period 2 pit **306**, looking south-west

Plate 14: Period 2 watering hole **2630**, looking south

Plate 15: Period 3 ditch **101**, looking north

Plate 16: Period 3 ditch **302**, looking north

oxfordarchaeology

Head Office/Registered Office/ OA South

Janus House
Osney Mead
Oxford OX2 0ES

t: +44 (0) 1865 263 800
f: +44 (0) 1865 793 496
e: info@oxfordarchaeology.com
w: http://oxfordarchaeology.com

OA North

Mill 3
Moor Lane
Lancaster LA1 1QD

t: +44 (0) 1524 541 000
f: +44 (0) 1524 848 606
e: oanorth@oxfordarchaeology.com
w: http://oxfordarchaeology.com

OA East

15 Trafalgar Way
Bar Hill
Cambridgeshire
CB23 8SQ

t: +44 (0) 1223 850500
e: oaeast@oxfordarchaeology.com
w: http://oxfordarchaeology.com